

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT**

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

*to be asked at a sitting of the National Assembly to be held on*

**Monday, the 22nd February, 2010**

*(Originally Starred Question No. 203 was set down for answer during the 18th Session)*

203. **\*Chaudhry Muhammad Barjees Tahir:**

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

- (a) *the prescribed rate of DAP and Urea fertilizer in the country at present; and*
- (b) *the steps taken for timely supply of fertilizer to the farmers?*

**Minister for Food and Agriculture (Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal):**

- (a) **DAP :**           **Rs.2200- 2560/50 kg bag**  
**UREA:**           **Rs.770-880/50 kg bag**
- (b) ◆ In pursuance of ECC’s decision dated 29-09-2009 a quantity. of 0.6 million MT of urea had been imported for Rabi 2009-10.
- ◆ As per ECC’s decision dated 15-12-2009 a quantity of 50,000 MT of Potassic fertilizers is being imported with subsidy of Rs.500/50kg bag.
- ◆ The import of Urea through Saudi Credit Facility of US\$ 100 million in order to meet the Urea requirement by the end of March, 2010 is underway.
- ◆ Two new plants of urea fertilizer established with the capacity of 1.6 million tons annually.

74. **\*Mrs. Yasmeen Rehman:**

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

- (a) the total quantity of wheat to be produced during the year, 2009-10 season;*
- (b) the demand of wheat in the country at present; and*
- (c) the total requirement of fertilizer for cultivation of wheat during the said season?*

**Minister for Food and Agriculture (Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal):**

(a) It is too early to estimate the total quantity of wheat to be produced during the year 2009-10 season. According to prescribed procedure the first production estimate of wheat crops are provided by the provinces during first week of April.

(b) Taking Pakistan's population as 170 million, the total food requirement of wheat as food will be around 21 million tons. Adding 2 million tons for meeting the needs of feed, seed and wastages, the total demand is 23 million tons.

(c) Total requirements of fertilizer for current wheat crop are 3.129 million tones including:

	<i>(Million tonnes)</i>
Urea	2.536
Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP)	0.620
Potash	0.036

75. **\*Mrs. Shakeela Khanam Rashid:**

*Will the Minister for Social Welfare and Special Education be pleased to state:*

- (a) the location-wise names of welfare schemes launched in District Lahore since March, 2008 till date; and*
- (b) the details of welfare scheme launched for senior citizens in the country during the said period?*

**Minister for Social Welfare and Special Education (Mrs. Samina Khalid Ghurki):** (a) Seven welfare schemes have been launched in district Lahore since March, 2008 till date under this Ministry and Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal. The location-wise names of these schemes are as under:—

S. No.	Scheme	Location
1.	Peoples Rural Health Ambulance Service.	Atto-K-Awan, Batapur, Lahore.
2.	Langer Project to provide one item food in evening to the attendants of the patients	General Hospital, Lahore
3.	02 National Centres for Rehabilitation of child labour and Orphans (NCsRCL &O)	(i) Lakho Der, Lahore (ii) Anjuman Akhwan-e-Islam Complex, Barki, Hadyara, Lahore Cantt.
4.	02 Vocational Dastkari Schools (VDS)	(i) Lakho Der, Lahore (ii) Anjuman Akhwan-e-Islam Complex, Barki, Hadyara, Lahore Cantt.
5.	Women Development & Empowerment Centre (WDEC)	Manawan, Bata Pur, Lahore Cantt.
6.	Hepatitis-C Centre (Joint venture)	Ghurki Teaching Trust Hospital, Jallo More, Lahore
7.	Jinnah Burn and Reconstructive Surgery Centre (Joint venture)	Jinnal Hospital, Lahore

(b) One old home naming Pakistan Home is being established in Islamabad. Building has been hired and further arrangements will be made soon.

76. **\*Ms. Parveen Masood Bhatti:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to control the T.B. disease in the country?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):** Following steps have been taken by the Ministry of Health to control T.B. disease in the country:—

- ◆ Presently in public sector 5,000 health facilities (BHUs, RHCs & DHQs) are providing free treatment services and out of these 1,163 health facilities are providing free diagnostic services.
- ◆ Tertiary Care Hospitals and Private Sector Facilities are increasingly being involved for provision of TB care facilities.
- ◆ National TB Control Program provides free diagnostic and treatment services to all patients suffering from Tuberculosis.
- ◆ It also gives policy guidelines, capacity building, operational research and carries out monitoring & evaluation to assess the performance of the program and plan accordingly.
- ◆ Over the last 09 years the program has diagnosed and treated free of cost more than 01 million patients, more than 40% of these being infective cases.
- ◆ Since one infective patient can spread the disease to 10-15 healthy persons in a year, the program has managed to avoid infection of six million healthy individuals. At present National TB Control Program is the only National Program that has achieved the targets used to evaluate the progress toward achievement of Millennium Development Goals (MDG's).

The gains in tabulated form may be seen at Annexure. 'A'.

**Annexure-A**

Number of Notified TB cases, CDR, TSR in Pakistan 2001-2008									
Years	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 upto 3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr
No's of Notified Case	34 068	52 782	70 485	94 327	142 211	176 678	230 468	248 115	205925
Case Detection Rate (CDR) all	13%	19%	25%	33%	53%	61%	76%	81%	69%
Case Detection Rate Sputum Smear Positive (SS+)	9%	13%	17%	25%	37%	49%	67%	74%	58%
Treatment Success Rate.	77%	78%	79%	82%	83%	88%	91%	90%	91%

Distribution of NSS + Cases by province  
(NTP 2004-3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr-2009)

Province	Population	(2004)	(2005)	(2006)	(2007)	(2008)	(2009 Q3)	News SS +100,000
Balochistan	8,157,966	1,859	2,720	3,343	3,660	3,556	2,569	31
NWFP	22,019,156	5,887	8,554	10,053	11,874	12,517	9,967	45
Punjab	90,888,605	7,527	17,010	30,172	47,926	58,004	45,180	50
Sindh	37,752,702	12,076	16,055	18,799	21,591	22,283	17,263	46
AJK	3,882,788	1,353	1,221	1,086	1,297	1,271	1,044	27
FATA	3,867,966	918	1,033	971	1,043	1,215	1,260	38
NA	1,102,899	121	124	139	180	145	167	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>167,671,882</b>	<b>29,743</b>	<b>46,717</b>	<b>64,573</b>	<b>87,571</b>	<b>98,993</b>	<b>77,440</b>	<b>47</b>

Gender Distribution of NSS + Cases in 2008

Age	Male	Female	Total	% Male	% Female
0-4	1213	2696	3909	31%	69%
15-24	10521	12838	23359	45%	55%
25-34	9889	10469	20358	49%	51%
35-44	8428	8146	16574	51%	49%
45-54	8264	6387	14651	57%	43%
55-65	6890	4750	11640	60%	40%
>65	5959	3547	9506	63%	37%
<b>Total</b>	<b>51184</b>	<b>48853</b>	<b>100037</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>48%</b>

77. **\*Mr. Abdul Qadir Patel:**

*Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the location-wise total land of Pakistan Railways where encroachment have been made at present;*
- (b) *the total land from where the said encroachment has been removed so far; and*
- (c) *the steps taken to remove the encroachment from the remaining areas?*

**Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmed Bilour):** (a) Total area of Railway land where encroachments have been made by individuals and various Govt. Departments/Institutions at present is 4231 acres. Division wise detail is as under:—

Lcation/Division	Land under illegal occupation of individuals (Acres)	Land under illegal use of Govt. Depatt/Institutions (Acres)
Peshawar	169	227
Rawalpindi	35	68
Lahore	1839	581
Multan	212	25
Sukkur	238	22
Karachi	246	03
Quetta	333	233
<b>Total</b>	<b>3072</b>	<b>1159</b>

**G. Total:3072 + 1159 = 4231 Acres.**

(b) Railway land from where encroachments have been removed during January to December 2009 is 142.73 acres. Division wise detail is as under:—

S. No.	Division	Area retrieved (Acres)
1.	Rawalpindi	6.974
2.	Sukkur	7.657
3.	Lahore	3.849
4.	Peshawar	16.877
5.	Workshop	1.096
6.	Multan	98.81
7.	Karachi	2.086
8.	Quetta	5.378
	<b>Total</b>	<b>142,73</b>

(c) Following steps are taken to retrieve the remaining Railway Land:

- ◆ Regular anti encroachment operations are conducted by each Division with the help of Railway and District Police.

- ◆ Railway had Railway Magistrate in the past who are now no longer functioning. These Magistrates should be appointed again so we can get our encroachment land vacated.
- ◆ FIR's are lodged and Police memos are issued against illegal occupants.
- ◆ Notices under land and building recovery of possession Ordinance 1965 are issued.
- ◆ Cases of encroachments are registered with Special Judicial Railway Magistrates under Section-134 of Railway Act 1890.
- ◆ Illegal occupation of Railway land by Government Departments/ Institutions has already been taken up with the concerned departments and is being pursued for mutual settlement.

78. **\*Mrs. Belum Husnain:**

*Will the Minister for Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to acquire agricultural technology from China especially in organic farming and arid area cropping; if so, the time by which it will be implemented?*

**Minister for Food and Agriculture (Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal):**

During 2009 PARC has signed eight MOUs with the concerned agencies in China and has initiated an implementation plan on acquiring Chinese agricultural technologies. After the approval of CDWP and PSDP funding,

Phase-I has been launched in July, 2009. PARC has deployed Chinese technology on cotton, rice, oilseeds, banana, sugarcane, wheat and drip irrigation into fields for testing. Funds will be required on a continuous basis to fully benefit from the technology adoption exercise.

79. **\*Mrs. Shireen Arshad Khan:**

*Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the details of agreements signed by Pakistan with European countries for promotion of bilateral co-operation during the foreign visits made by the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan during the last two years?*

**Minister for Foreign Affairs (Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi):**

The details of agreements signed by Pakistan with European countries for promotion of bilateral co-operation during the foreign visits made by the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan during the last two years is attached as Annexure-A.

## Annexure-A

S.No.	Country	Agreement	Details	Signing Date	Occasion
1	Italy	MoU on Defence Production	The MoU is aimed at encouraging, facilitating and developing cooperation in the field of defence, on a mutual basis. The cooperation between the two countries will cover the areas of security and defence policy, peace support operations and humanitarian operations, participation in joint exercises, military education and training among others. The Agreement allows exchange of defence equipment such as aircraft, submarine and surface naval units, armoured and light armoured vehicles and defence and communication systems. The MoU is valid for five years and shall automatically be renewed for similar periods unless terminated.	30 September 2009	President's Visit to Italy 28 September-1st October 2009
2	Germany	Agreement on the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment (BIT)	The agreement aims at facilitating the efforts by Pakistan to attract foreign investment. It promotes & safeguards the business interests. It will boost economic cooperation and create positive conditions for the investors of both the countries. Under the agreement Germany would provide insurance guarantees to the companies investing in Pakistan covering political and security risks. This treaty is likely to attract investment in oil & gas, energy, agriculture, textile and industrial units. The signing of this agreement was described as "a historic step" by the Prime Minister of Pakistan and the Chancellor of Germany.	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2009	Prime Minister's Visit to Germany 28 November-2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2009

80. **\*Mrs. Shamshad Sattar Bachani:**

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

- (a) *the steps being taken to provide standardized seed of wheat and cotton to the growers;*
- (b) *the percentage of seed being supplied by the registered companies to the cotton growers at present; and*
- (c) *the total number of registered seed growing companies at present?*

**Minister for Food and Agriculture (Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal):**

(a) Following steps have been taken to provide standardized seed of wheat and cotton to the growers:—

- Facilitation in production of BNS, Pre-basic and Basic seed of wheat and cotton varieties.
- Certification of commercial seed production.
- Seed market regulation of notified varieties.

(b) At present, about 15621 MT (390522 mds) cotton seed of notified varieties and 28367 MT (709177 mds) of BT cotton varieties have been procured by the public and private seed companies. Distribution and supply of cotton seed is subject to testing of the notified varieties in the field laboratories, which is under progress and approval of BT cotton from the Provincial Seed Council.

(c) At present, 611 registered public and private seed companies are functioning in the country.

81. **\*Ms. Khalida Mansoor:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

- (a) *whether it is a fact that a Diabetes Control Programme launched in the country during the past, has been abandoned; if so, the reasons thereof; and*

- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration to restore the said Programme on regular basis as a National Programme; if so, the details thereof?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):** (a) No Programme on Diabetes Control was launched in the country during the past by Government of Pakistan.

- (b) Does not apply in view of (a) above.

82. **\*Ms. Tasneem Siddiqui:**

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

- (a) *the procedure prescribed for construction buying and selling of official and residential buildings of Pakistani Missions abroad; and*
- (b) *whether funds are allocated under PSDP yearly for the said purpose?*

**Minister for Foreign Affairs (Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi):**

(a) The prescribed mechanism/procedure for sale/purchase/construction of any project for the Pakistani Missions abroad was approved by the competent authority in November 2001 and is followed whenever a sale/purchase/construction project is undertaken by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As per the approved procedure/mechanism, an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC), headed by the Special Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Finance Secretary or his nominee and Secretary Housing & Works or his nominee, is the competent forum to decide upon any proposal pertaining to the sale/purchase/construction of official and residential buildings of Pakistan Missions abroad.

(b) As per the mechanism/procedure for sale/purchase/construction and financial modalities of Government properties abroad, approved by the competent authority in November 2001, the Finance Division is responsible for providing additional funds for any construction/sale/purchase project for the Pakistani Missions abroad in the "regular" (non-developmental) budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) is funded by the developmental budget and is meant for development projects inside Pakistan, unless decided otherwise by the competent forum (CDWP/ECNEC). Thus, as per the approved procedure/mechanism referred to above, the funds to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for carrying out sale/purchase/construction projects abroad, are not allocated under the PSDP rather the funds, if any, are allocated in the regular (non-developmental) budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

83. **\*Mrs. Nisar Tanveer:**

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

- (a) the prescribed criteria for evaluating the performance of the employees posted on Pakistan Missions abroad;*
- (b) whether any action has been taken against those employees during the last five years for their substandard performance; if so, the details thereof; and*
- (c) the steps being taken to enhance the performance of those employees?*

**Minister for Foreign Affairs (Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi):**

(a) The criteria for posting in Pakistan Missions abroad for officers are as under:—

- Seniority in the posting roster (stay at the Headquarters);
- Merit (detailed examination of service record and ACRs);
- Suitability for the post under consideration;
- Previous postings abroad (by classification of stations);
- Family circumstances (schooling of children/medical considerations);
- Personal aptitude; and
- Language skills etc.

The criteria for posting in Pakistan Missions abroad for officials are as under:—

- Seniority-cum-fitness and merit by detailed examination of the service record and Annual Confidential Reports.
- The Departmental Selection Committee determines suitability of the official, through personal interview.
- Medical board at a designated Govt. Hospital certifies satisfactory health condition of the official and his/her family.
- Clearance by the security agencies.

(b) The Ministry takes strict action against all the Officers/officials against whom there are reports of substandard performance. Details of such Officers/officials and actions taken against them during the past 5 years are attached as Annexure-A.

(c) The officers/officials with substandard performance are kept under observation for a certain period, and in some cases, their promotion/posting withheld as a punishment. The officers/officials have to work hard to improve their performance in order to meet posting criteria.

The officials of the Ministry undergo various courses offered by the Secretariat Training Institute and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to enhance their capability.

Annexure-A

OFFICERS

S.No.	MISSION	Charges	Action Taken
1.	Parep Madrid	Issuance of passports to unauthorized persons etc.	Penalty of "Withholding of promotion for two years" imposed against the officer.
2.	Parep Toronto	Illegal acquiring of Property and Applying for Political Asylum in Canada etc.	Major Penalty of Removal from Service was imposed against the officer. Appeal filed by the officer has been rejected by the Federal Service Tribunal.
3.	Parep Houston	Issuance of passports to unauthorized persons etc.	Reference filed by the NAB against the officer is sub-judice before the Accountability Court, Rawalpindi. Officer is under arrest.
4.	Parep Birmingham.	Irregularities/Discrepancies in collection of passport fees etc.	Penalty of Caution was imposed against the officer and officer has also been directed to deposit 47,859/- Pounds in the public Exchequer. Officer has filed Appeal before the Federal Service Tribunal and matter is sub-judice before the Court.
5.	Parep Jeddah	Excess drawl of TA/DA etc.	The officer has been recalled from Mission. Further action against the officer is under process.
6.	Pahic Ottawa	Irregular hiring of Residential Property etc.	A Warning was issued to the officer.

## STAFF

S.NO	MISSION	ACTION TAKEN AGAINST THE OFFICIAL
1.	New Delhi	An official was re-called on disciplinary grounds in 2005 and imposed ban on his posting.
2.	Rome	An official was pre-maturely recalled to headquarters on disciplinary grounds and his foreign posting was banned for five years, five annual increments were stopped and permanently banned for consular duties.
3.	Athens	An official was pre-maturely recalled to headquarters on disciplinary grounds and disciplinary proceedings are under process.
4.	Rome	An official was recalled prematurely on disciplinary grounds. Case under process.
5.	New York	One official is absent from duty. Show Cause Notice has been issued. Case is under process.
6.	Oslo	An official was recalled due to poor performance in 2005. His cadre was changed and a ban for two years was imposed on his posting.
7.	Ottawa	One official is absent from duty. Show Cause Notice has been issued. Case is under process.
8.	IDB, Jeddah	One official is absent from duty. Show Cause Notice has been issued. Case is under process.
9.	Abuja	An official was pre-maturely recalled on headquarters. Imposed penalty of censure and remained under observation for a period of six months.
10.	Dhaka	An official was pre-maturely recalled to headquarters on disciplinary grounds and pre-maturely retired from Government service.
11.	Ottawa	Disciplinary proceedings against an official is under process.
12.	Stockholm	One official is declared absconder. Disciplinary proceedings are under process.
13.	Niamey	One official is declared absconder. Disciplinary proceedings are under process.
14.	Bucharest	One official is declared absconder. Disciplinary proceedings are under process.
15.	New York	One official is declared absconder. Disciplinary proceedings are under process.
16.	Bradford	One official is declared absconder. Disciplinary proceedings are under process.

## 84. \*Rana Mahmood -ul- Hassan:

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

- (a) *the steps being taken to promote drip irrigation, system in the country; and*

- (b) *whether special funds have been allocated during the current fiscal year for the said project; if so, the detail thereof alongwith the steps taken for utilization of those funds?*

**Minister for Food and Agriculture (Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal):**

(a) To promote Drip/Sprinkler Irrigation systems in the country, ECNEC in its meeting held on September 19, 2007 approved the project “Water Conservation and Productivity Enhancement through High Efficiency Irrigation Systems” at cost of Rs. 18.00 billion. It envisages installation of Drip/Sprinkler Irrigation Systems on an area of about 291,249 acres in all Provinces including FATA, FANA and AJK over a period of five years.

In pursuance of the directive of the Prime Minister, the implementation of the project has been shifted to PARC on August 11, 2009.

(b) No special funds have been allocated or the project during the current fiscal year. However, funds amounting Rs. 1,500.00 million has been allocated for this project in PSDP 2009-10.

85. **\*S. A. Iqbal Quadri:**

*Will the Minister for Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the government to increase cultivation of sugar cane in the country during the year 2010-11; if so, the steps taken in the regard so far?*

**Minister for Food and Agriculture (Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal):**

There is no specific proposal under consideration of the Government to increase the area under sugarcane crop. Sugarcane is cultivated on about 2.5 million acres of land. Increase in area of sugarcane would affect the production of other competing crops like Cotton and Rice. Therefore, the Government is focusing on its vertical improvement and the following steps are being taken in that direction:—

- (i) Provincial Agriculture Extension Departments educate the farmers at local level as well as through electronic and print media regarding good agricultural practices for increasing production of sugarcane.
- (ii) The sugar mills have been advised to invest in sugar crops through R&D and by distributing pressed mud to the sugarcane growers free

of cost to enable them to incorporate this matter in their fields for improvement of soil condition.

- (iii) The Provincial Governments were advised to earmark 15% of the cess fund for the Research and Development (R&D) of sugarcane crop.
- (iv) Ensure timely availability of inputs like seed, fertilizer and pesticides/ herbicides. The supply of agriculture credit is also ensured.
- (v) The Federal and Provincial Governments are facilitating the sugarcane research station in the provision of imported sugarcane Fuzz to develop new varieties.
- (vi) The farmers are also advised for judicious use of water and micro management of irrigation water at local level by Irrigation and Agriculture Departments.

86. **\*Mr. Mahmood Hayat Khan Tochi Khan:**

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

- (a) *the steps taken to supply better cotton seeds to the farmers for the next cotton crop; and*
- (b) *the names of the cottons seeds presently available for provision to the growers of the said crop?*

**Minister for Food and Agriculture (Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal):**

(a) To provide certified seed of cotton to the farmers for the next cotton crop, at present a quantity of 1366 MT has been certified so far (seed testing still in progress).

(b) At present in Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan 9, 14 and 3 cotton varieties are available after testing in the field laboratories of FSC&RD respectively. Moreover, 10 Bt cotton varieties would also be available subject to approval of Provincial Seed Council.

87. **\*Ms. Nighat Parveen Mir:**

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that Pakistan Agricultural Research Council had carried out experiments for artificial rain in the country in recent past; if so, the achievement gained thereof; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration to promote the said methodology in order to overcome the drought in the country?*

**Minister for Food and Agriculture (Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal):**

(a) Limited work was done on the artificial rain making during 1988. The work was done in collaboration with Pakistan Air Force. Cloud seeding, was carried out in the Fateh Jang area on 22nd and 23rd December, 1988. 23 mm rain was recorded by Meteorological Department as a consequence of dry ice application.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration with PARC.

88. **\*Dr. Talat Mahesar:**

*Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the total income and loss suffered by Pakistan Railways since March, 2008 till date; and*
- (b) *the steps taken by the Government to control deficit of Pakistan Railways during the said period?*

**Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmed Bilour):** (a) Pakistan Railways generated income and incurred expenditure and loss during the period March, 2008 to January, 2010 as under:—

(Rs in milliom)

S. No	Descriptions	Amount
1.	Income	42596.559
2.	Expenditure	72771.966
3.	Loss	-30175.407

(b) Following steps have been taken to control operational deficits of Pakistan Railways:—

- ◆ Assured supply of Goods stock (wagons)
- ◆ Introduction of High Speed, High Capacity freight wagons.
- ◆ Induction of Heavy Diesel locomotive and new design Chinese coaches.
- ◆ Increased interaction with customers and business community.
- ◆ Promotion of Public-private partnership.
- ◆ Improvement in availability of locomotives.
- ◆ Reducing transit time and turn round by introduction of wireless communication between train crew and station staff.
- ◆ Increasing the average number of trains *ex-Karachi Port*.
- ◆ Dualization of the main railway line.
- ◆ Installation of modern signaling system on the main railway line between Lodhran – Shahdara Railways Station (428 KMs).

89. **\*Begum Nuzhat Sadiq:**

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

- (a) *whether the sugar cane crop is sufficient for Sugar Mills for the current crushing season 2009-10 in the country; and*
- (b) *the steps taken to increase the said crop during the said period?*

**Minister for Food and Agriculture (Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal):**

(a) During the year 2009-10, the sugarcane crop is estimated at 47 million tons while the existing 86 sugar mills of country require about 70 million tons of sugarcane to run on full capacity. Therefore the current sugarcane crop is not sufficient for Sugar Mills to meet their crushing requirement.

(b) The steps taken by the Government to, increase production of sugarcane are given as follows—

- (i) Provincial Agriculture Extension Departments educate the farmers at local level as well as through electronic and print media regarding good agricultural practices for increasing production of sugarcane.

- (ii) The sugar mills have been advised to invest in sugar crops by distributing pressed mud to the sugarcane growers free of cost to enable them to incorporate this matter in their fields for improvement of soil condition.
- (iii) The Provincial Governments were advised to earmark 15% of the cess fund for the Research and Development (R&D) of sugarcane crop.
- (iv) The Federal and Provincial Governments are facilitating the sugarcane research station in the provision of imported sugarcane Fuzz to develop new varieties.
- (v) Ensure timely availability of inputs like seed, fertilizer and pesticides/ herbicides. The supply of agriculture credit is also ensured.
- (vi) The farmers are also advised for judicious use of water and micro management of irrigation water at local level by Irrigation and Agriculture Departments.

90. **\*Mr. Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

- (a) *whether the pharmaceutical companies consulted the Ministry which fixing the price of medicines; and*
- (b) *if so, the prescribed criteria thereof?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):**(a) Pharmaceutical companies do not fix prices of medicines on their own. The same are fixed by the Federal Government under Section 12 of the Drugs Act, 1976.

(b) EXISTING PRICING CRITERIA.

Since April 2004 uniform prices of drugs are fixed by the Drugs Pricing Committee on the basis of following laid down parameters:

A. NEW CHEMICAL ENTITIES

- i. Prices are fixed at an average of the prices prevailing in the SAARC countries. In case the drug is not available in the SAARC countries,

international prices (particularly Australia / New Zealand) are considered.

- ii. Prices as mentioned in the proforma invoice for imported drugs and costing data for locally manufactured drugs are also considered for new chemical entities besides other parameters and Maximum Retail Price (MRP) is calculated by applying the following formulae:

**Imported drugs**

MRP (Maximum Retail Price) = C&F(Cost & Freight) + 40% Markup.

**Locally manufactured drugs**

Non-Sterile Products

MRP = Prime Cost + 75% Markup

**Sterile Products**

MRP = Prime Cost + 90% Markup

(Note — The Markup is allowed to cover the expenses / discounts)

**B. GENERIC DRUGS**

Uniform prices are fixed for generics on the following parameters:—

- i. Average of prices of same composition(s) / generic(s) already available in the country, in case the pricing Committee has yet not fixed the price of a medicine of a given formulation.
- ii. Prices of new strengths of medicines are awarded on pro-rata basis of price of same composition / generic fixed by the Drugs Pricing Committee.
- iii. A minimum of 15% lower price than the brand leader price at the time of registration of first generic.

91. **\*Mr. Mohammad Afzal Khokhar:**

*Will the Minister for Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Government to increase the production of sugar during the current crushing season?*

**Minister for Food and Agriculture (Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal):**

The steps being taken by the Government for increasing production of sugarcane are given as follows:—

- (i) Sugarcane is the primary and major raw material to produce sugar in Pakistan while sugarcane is a high delta and long duration crop. Water and duration of crop is major constraint in its productivity. However, following steps are being taken to bring vertical improvement in sugarcane crop.
- (ii) Provincial Agriculture Extension Departments educate the farmers at local level as well as through electronic and print media regarding good agricultural practices for increasing production of sugarcane.
- (iii) The sugar mills have been advised to distribute pressed mud to the sugarcane growers free of cost to enable them to incorporate this matter in their fields for improvement of soil condition.
- (iv) The Provincial Governments were advised to earmark 15% of the cess fund for the Research and Development (R&D) of sugarcane crop.
- (v) Ensure timely availability of inputs like seed, fertilizer and pesticides/ herbicides. The supply of agriculture credit is also ensured.
- (vi) The Federal and Provincial Governments are facilitating the sugarcane research station in the provision of imported sugarcane Fuzz to develop new varieties.
- (vii) The farmers are also advised for judicious use of water and micro management of irrigation water at local level by Irrigation and Agriculture Departments.

92. **\*Abdul Malik Wazir:**

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

- (a) *whether there is any proposal under consideration for cultivation of tea in South Waziristan;*
- (b) *if so, the steps taken in this regard alongwith the locations thereof?*

**Minister for Food and Agriculture (Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal):**

(a) and (b) There is no proposal of tea cultivation in South Waziristan.

93. **\*Ms. Bushra Gohar:**

*Will the Minister for Social Welfare and Special Education be pleased to state:*

- (a) *whether it is a fact that a Social Protection Strategy/Programme has been launched in the country during recent past; if so, the salient features of the said Strategy/Programme; and*
- (b) *the present status of its implementation?*

**Minister for Social Welfare and Special Education (Mrs. Samina Khalid Ghurki):** (a) Yes on 8th May, 2007, Cabinet Committee on Social Sector chaired by the then Prime Minister endorsed the National Social Protection Strategy. The salient features of the Social strategy are as under:—

- ◆ Expanding the coverage of cash transfer Programmes of Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal and Zakat from around 2 million households to 3.2 million households in the next five years.
- ◆ Initiating a new Public Works/Cash for work Programme.
- ◆ Scaling up school feeding.
- ◆ Social Care Services (disability, vulnerable).

(b) While the Plan of Action was under preparation, Benazir Income Support Programme was launched in October 2008 and it was concluded that aforesaid Social Protection Programme would overlap BISP and on the advice of planning commission the programme was terminated.

Lately, the Planning Commission (Centre for Poverty Reduction Social Policy Development) has notified a committee under the chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission to review the National Social Protection Strategy.

94. **\*Ms. Sabeen Rizvi:**

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

- (a) *the quantity of tea, vegetables, fruits and honey produced by PARC/NARC during the last three years till date; and*
- (b) *the utilization of those products?*

**Minister for Food and Agriculture (Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal):****(a) Quantity of tea Produced**

- ◆ 19,020 Kg of black tea and 4007 Kg of green tea were produced at National Tea Research Station of PARC during the last three years.

**Quantity of Honey Produced**

- ◆ 2081.49 Kg Honey was produced at Honeybee Research Institute (HBRI) NARC during the last three years.
- ◆ 55.35 Kg wax sheets were produced at HBRI, NARC during the last three years.
- ◆ 33 Honeybee queens were produced at HBRI, NARC during 2008-09

**Quantity of Vegetables Produced**

- ◆ 32167 Kg of various vegetables including Potato were produced at Horticulture Research Institute (HRI), NARC during the last three years.

**Quantity of Fruits nursery plants/Fruits, Fruits/Fruits products produced**

- ◆ 7059 fruits nursery plants, 36.50 Kg olive pickle, 6075 dozens Citrus Fruits and 145 Kg peaches were sold during the last three years from Horticulture Research Institute, NARC.

**(b) Utilization of Tea**

- ◆ Black tea was sold worth Rs.2, 078,980/-through Auction.
- ◆ Green tea was sold worth Rs.512, 900/-through Auction

**Utilization of Honey**

- ◆ Honey was sold worth Rs. 532226/- to the public on first come first serve basis.
- ◆ Wax sheets were sold worth Rs. 12352/-to the beekeepers on first come first serve basis.

- ◆ Honeybee queens were sold worth Rs. 9900/- to the beekeepers on first come first serve basis.

#### **Utilization of Vegetables**

- ◆ Vegetables including potato were sold worth Rs. 74170/- to the employees of NARC/PARC at the approved rates.
- ◆ 7738 Kg potato was distributed for experimental purposes to research station during the last three years.
- ◆ 14487 Kg potatoes were retained as seed during the last three years for sowing of next crop.

#### **Utilization of Fruits**

- ◆ Fruit nursery plants worth Rs. 156280/, fruit worth Rs. 182025/- and Olive pickle worth Rs. 7035/- were sold to employees and interested persons during the last three years at the approved rates.

95. **\*Mr. Riaz Fatyana:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

- (a) *whether foreign funds and H.R assistance have been provided for Pharmaceutical Research in the country during last five years;*
- (b) *if so, the total amount alongwith the names of the donor country?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):** (a) No foreign funds or Human Resource assistance from abroad have been received by the Ministry of Health for pharmaceutical research in the country during the last five years.

- (b) Not applicable in view of the reply at (a) above.

ISLAMABAD:  
*The 21st February, 2010.*

KARAMAT HUSSAIN NIAZI,  
*Secretary.*

## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

## “UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND THEIR REPLIES”

For Monday, the 22nd February, 2010

*(Originally Unstarred Question Nos. 165, 170, 175, 176, 298, 302, 303 and 304 were set down for answer during the 18th Session)*

165. **Mrs. Shamshad Sattar Bachani:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

- (a) the name of medicines purchased by local purchase on behalf of Ministers/Ministers of State/Parliamentary Secretaries through their Private Secretaries during the last two years; and*
- (b) the total value of those medicines?*

Withdrawn by the Honourable Member.

170. **Mrs. Shakeela Khanam Rashid:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

- (a) the total number of advertisements made by the Ministry in the print and electronic media during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 relating to health services;*
- (b) the total amount incurred on those advertisements; and*
- (c) the criteria adopted for selection of newspapers and TV channels for the said purpose?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):** (a) A total number of 52823 TV & Radio advertisements were made during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09.

2672 advertisements were published in the press.

(b) Total expenditure for public health education advertisement during the two years was Rs.386.91 Million. (copy attached).

(c) The selection of media was based on the following criteria:

1. Rating of the media.
2. Popularity of Media among Target Audiences.
3. Rate offered in comparison with other channels of same standing.
4. Offer of special discount for airing of public service messages.

### Annexure

#### EXPENDITURE ON THE USE OF MASS MEDIA (ELECTRONIC, PRESS) FOR THE YEARS 2007-8 AND 2008-9 ARE GIVEN BELOW

		Rs. In Million					
Sr. No.	Program	TV Channels		Press		Total	Flag No.
		2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09		
1.	EPI	87.166	46.408	13.456	17.606	164.636	Flag-A
2.	AIDS	41.732	0	6.208	0	47.94	Flag-B
3.	Anti smoking	1.70	0	0	3.363	5.063	Flag-C
4.	TB	18.352	6.503	3.0	1.805	29.66	Flag-D
5.	Nutrition	0	0	0	0	0	Flag-E
6.	LHWs	15.895	21.581	39.722	23.588	100.786	Flag-F
7.	Hepatitis	14.428	9.034	3.955	3.625	31.042	Flag-G
8.	Malaria	0	4.298	0	3.485	7.783	Flag-H
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>179.273</b>	<b>87.824</b>	<b>66.341</b>	<b>53.472</b>	<b>386.91</b>	

175. **Mr. Abdul Qadir Patel:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the total number of doctors employed at Federal Government Hospitals during the last two financial years till date:*
- (b) *the total number of un-employed registered doctors at present?*

Reply not received.

176. **Mrs. Yasmeen Rehman:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

- (a) *whether any research papers in medicines has been prepared by the Ministry; if so, the implementation status thereof;*
- (b) *if the reply to part (a) above is in the negative, whether there is any proposal to prepare research paper in the said field alongwith the funds allocated thereof?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):** (a) Ministry of Health does not prepare any research papers; however. this Ministry disburses funds from Central Research Fund (CRF) established in pursuance to clause (b) of sub section (1) of section 12 of the Drugs Act, 1976 and the rules framed thereunder to research institutes/ organizations to conduct research in the field of medicines/drugs. **(Annexure-A).**

(b) In fact the research papers are prepared and published by the respective institutes/ organizations where such activity has been carried out.

*(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)*

298. **Ms. Surriya Asghar:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

- (a) *whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of medicines in the PIMS, Islamabad at present; if so, the reasons thereof;*
- (b) *the funds provided to the said hospital for purchase of medicines during the year 2009-10 alongwith the utilization thereof; and*
- (c) *the names of the companies/stores from where those medicines were purchased during the said period?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):** (a) There is no shortage of medicines in PIMS, Islamabad. All life saving and essential medicines are being provided to the patients with-in the available recourses.

(b) The funds provided to the PIMS for purchase of medicines during the year 2009-10 and utilization thereof is as under:—

<u>Funds Allocated</u>	<u>Utilization</u>
Rs. 290.568	Rs. 191.150

(c) The names of the companies / stores from where those medicines were purchased during the said period is at Annex-A.

*(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)*

302. **Raja Muhammad Asad Khan:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

(a) *the total amount of medicines purchased for Federal Government Hospitals during the year 2008-09; and*

(b) *the procedure adopted therein?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):** (a) The value of medicines purchased by the Federal Government Hospitals during 2008-09 is as under:—

Name of Hospital	Amount (In Million Rs.)
FGSH, Islamabad	380.500
NICH, Karachi	30.233
JPMC, Karachi	145.000
NIRM, Islamabad	8.235
PIMS, Islamabad	91.700
SKBZ, Quetta	9.999
NICVD, Karachi	55.334

(b) All purchases were made through open tender and according to the government prescribed PPRA Rules-2004.

303. **Mr. Muhammad Riaz Malik:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the names and designation of the officers in BPS-17 and above of the Ministry and its attached departments who availed medical facilities and medicines from Federal Government Hospitals during the last three years;*
- (b) *the total amount incurred on the purchase of their medicines, separately; and*
- (c) *the names of medicines mostly provided to them during the said period?*

Withdrawn by the Honourable Member.

304. **Mrs. Shamshad Sattar Bachani:**

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

- (a) *the total expenditure incurred on each foreign visit made by the Foreign Minister and Minister of State, separately during the period from March, 2008 to September, 2009; and*
- (b) *the purpose of the each visit?*

Reply not received.

74. **Mrs. Yasmeen Rehman:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the year-wise total funds allocated for research and development on medicines during the last three years;*
- (b) *the total funds presently available with the Ministry for the said purpose; and*
- (c) *the total number of projects for research and development launched at present alongwith the projects to be launched during the year 2010-11?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):** (a) The year wise total funds allocated for research and development on medicines during the last three years are listed as below:—

Financial Year	Total funds allocated for Research and Development on Medicines
2006-07	Rs. 44.000 million
2007-08	Rs. 46.200 million
2008-09	Rs. 42.250 million

(b) The total funds presently with the Ministry of Health for the purpose in 2009-10 budget are **Rs. 23.600 million.**

(c) Thirty-two (32) projects funded through Central Research Fund of Ministry of Health are under execution by the various Principal Investigators in different research institutions, while 30 projects are in pipeline for evaluation and will be launched in the year 2010-11 subject to the recommendations / approval by the Committee of Experts on Drug Research of Ministry of Health constituted under rule 8(2) of Drug (Research) Rules, 1978.

75. **Mrs. Shakeela Khanam Rashid:**

*Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the prescribed procedure for issuance of passport to the Pakistanis living abroad?*

**Minister for Foreign Affairs (Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi):**  
As prescribed in Passport & Visa Manual 2006, Pakistan nationals requiring Machine Readable Passport have to appear in the Pakistan Embassy/Consulate and provide computerized National Identity Card/National Identity Card for Overseas Pakistanis.

For Issuance of Manual Passport, the individual is required to fill in the prescribed form and submit the same in the Pakistan Embassy/Consulate along with copy of CNIC, latest three photographs and the previous passport.

If the applicant is below 18 years of age, Computerized Registration Certificate is required for issuance of passport.

In case of loss of Passport, the individual is required to provide police report also.

76. **Mr. Abdul Qadir Patel:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state the total number of patients whom free of cost medicines were provided by NIH, Islamabad since July, 2006 till date alongwith the name of those medicines and value thereof?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):** National Institute of Health as per its mandate is a Public Health, Research and Training Institute & not a hospital, therefore provision of medicines to patients free of cost does not fall within the assigned functions under NIH Ordinance, 1980.

77. **Mrs. Belum Husnain:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state the total number of affectees of earthquake of NWFP/Balochistan whose limbs have been amputated alongwith the total number of those affectees to whom the artificial limbs have been provided so far?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):** Whereas, amputation of limbs of earthquake affectees from NWFP/Balochistan were carried out in different hospitals in NWFP, Punjab and Sindh provinces, the Federal Ministry of Health has provided artificial limbs (Orthosis and Prosthesis) to 363 patients so far through National Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine, Islamabad as per following details:—

Type	Earthquake patients	Non earthquake patients
Orthosis	361	985
Prosthesis	02	49
Total	363	1034

78. **Ms. Shireen Arshad Khan:**

*Will the Minister for Social Welfare and Special Education be pleased to state:*

- (a) the total number of disabled and indigent students who were provided financial assistance by Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal during the year, 2008-09; and*
- (b) the prescribed procedure for providing the said assistance?*

**Minister for Social Welfare and Special Education (Mrs. Samina Khalid Ghurki):** (a) Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal provides financial assistance to indigent/ deserving students without discrimination of cast, creed and gender. There is no separate budget allocation for disabled students. Deserving students who fulfill the laid down criteria are being provided financial assistance/educational stipend upto Rs.60,000/- per annum. 4890 students including disabled students were provided financial assistance during the year 2008-09.

(b) Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal provides educational stipend/assistance upto Rs.60,000/- per annum to poor indigent students of Government universities /colleges/ institutions on provision of application on plain paper alongwith verification certificate from the head of the educational institution where the application study and copy of CNIC, regardless of caste, colour, creed or gender.

79. **Ms. Khalida Mansoor:**

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

(a) *the names of the employees of the Ministry who accompanied the Foreign Minister and Minister of State on their official visits abroad since March, 2008 till date; and*

(b) *the head-wise total expenditure incurred on those visits?*

Reply not received.

80. **Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

(a) *the present status of expansion of F. G. S. Hospital, Islamabad into Argentina Park, Islamabad; and*

(b) *whether the Government of Argentina has been consulted in the matter?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):** (a) The matter is on the agenda of the Capital Development Authority (CDA) Board. Their approval is still awaited.

(b) Yes.

81. **Ch. Abid Sher Ali:**

*Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the steps taken to improve the services in the passenger trains; and*  
 (b) *the steps taken to enhance the security arrangements in those trains?*

**Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmed Bilour):** (a) 161 passenger coaches have been rehabilitated under a phased programme for the comfort of the traveling public.

- ◆ 15 Non AC coaches have been upgraded to Business Class with value addition such as comfort and group traveling in compartments.
  - ◆ Electric supply system of an additional lot of 22 passenger coaches has been replaced with an updated and efficient system (Head end generation) ensuring reliability of lights and fans.
  - ◆ Catering services on trains and at stations are better now.
  - ◆ Reservation facility is available upto 23.00 hours.
  - ◆ Credit Card is accepted for the purchase of tickets at Lahore, Rawalpindi and Karachi Reservation Offices.
  - ◆ 13 more reservation offices have been computerized with work on five in progress.
- (b) ◆ Pakistan Railways Police has been directed to ensure high level of alertness/vigil and intensify checking/patrolling of Railway installations/ track/trains.
- ◆ Railway employees have been advised to be alert on duty and take notice of any injurious activity, suspicious persons/unclaimed articles and luggage. Train staff thoroughly checks the train with Police escort.
  - ◆ Passenger services in Balochistan have been regulated and scheduled during day hours, avoiding night service.
  - ◆ Entry of unconcerned persons in railway premises is prohibited. Production of National Identity Cards is compulsory during booking of luggage.

Following additional measures have been taken:

- (a) Help line No. 1333 toll free at Railway Police stations.
- (b) Scanning Machines under installation at Karachi and Lahore stations.
- (c) Walk through gates at major railway stations.
- (d) CCTV Cameras are working at Karachi, Lahore and Rohri railway stations.
- (e) 23 additional stations are being equipped with electronic gadgets.
- (f) Entry/Exit points are manned and luggage checked through metal detectors.
- (g) Anti Terrorist Squad Commandos are deployed regularly at major Railway stations and on trains.
- (h) Terminating and originating trains are checked and rakes escorted by Railway Police.
- (i) Patrolling by Railway Staff/Police is a regular feature.
- (j) Pilot engines are run ahead of passenger trains in affected areas to avert any untoward incident.
- (k) Coordination liaison between Railway and District Police has improved.
- (l) Trains are subjected to electronic checks prior to departure.
- (m) Closed circuit TV's, notice boards as well as public address system for the public in general.

82. **Ms. Surriya Asghar:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the gender-wise total number of beds available for patients in PIMS and FGSH, Islamabad at present;*
- (b) *the total number of Doctors presently working in those hospitals; and*

- (c) *the total number of Doctors amongst them who have been working in the Maternity Care and Re-productive Health Care Departments of those hospitals separately?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):** (a) The gender-wise total number of beds in PIMS and FGSH, Islamabad as under:-

**PIMS, Islamabad**

S. No.	Gender	No. of Beds
1.	Exclusively Male Beds	230
2.	Exclusively Female Beds	272
3.	Beds for both males/females	497

**FGSH, Islamabad**

S. No.	Gender	No. of Beds
1.	Exclusively Male Beds	106
2.	Exclusively Female Beds	268
3.	Beds for both males/females	150

(b) A total of 285 doctors are working in PIMS, Islamabad and 269 in FGSH, Islamabad.

(c) Twenty four (24) doctors in PIMS, Islamabad and thirty (30) in FGSH, Islamabad are working in Maternity and Reproductive Health Care Departments of the said hospitals.

**83. Mr. Muhammad Baligh -ur-Rehman:**

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

- (a) *the name, designation, domicile of the Pakistani delegates in the last SAARC Conference; and*
- (b) *the total amount incurred thereon?*

**Minister for Foreign Affairs (Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi):**

(a) and (b) The 15th SAARC Summit was held from 2-3 August 2008 in Colombo. The Pakistani delegation was headed by the Prime Minister of Pakistan and the total expenditure was incurred Pak. Rs. 6,212,484.50.

The list of the delegates is as follows:—

- |        |  |                   |
|--------|--|-------------------|
| (i)    | Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Foreign Minister,                       |                   |
| (ii)   | Mr. Salman Bashir, Foreign Secretary,                                  | NWFP              |
| (iii)  | Mr. Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, DG(SA),                                      | Punjab            |
| (iv)   | Mr. Muhammad Sadiq, Spokesperson,                                      | NWFP              |
| (v)    | Mr. Nazir Hussain, Chief of Protocol,                                  | Punjab            |
| (vi)   | Sahebzada A.Khan, Dir (FMO),   | Sindh (U)         |
| (vii)  | Dr. Muhammad Khalid Ejaz, Dir (NBBS),                                  | Punjab            |
| (viii) | Mr. Muhammad Hassan, Dir (SAARC),                                      | Northern<br>Areas |
| (ix)   | Mrs. Riffat Masood, Counsellor, New Delhi,                             | NWFP              |
| (x)    | Mr. Muhammad Saeed Sarwar, A.D.(SAARC),                                | Punjab            |
| (xi)   | Mr. Babar Amin, Dir (FSO),   | Punjab            |
| (xii)  | Mr. Faisal Niaz Tirmizi, First Secretary, Abu Dhabi,                   | Punjab            |
| (xiii) | Dr. Nasir Ali Khan, Amb at large,                                      |                   |
| (xiv)  | H.E.Shahid Malik, High Commissioner, New Delhi,                        |                   |
| (xv)   | Mr. Amjad Hussain, Joint Scientific Adviser, M/o Science & Technology, |                   |
| (xvi)  | Mr. Shahid Bashir, Sr.J.S. M/o Commerce,                               |                   |
| (xvii) | Rana Asad Amin, AS Finance.  |                   |

Information as available on domicile is given in respect of the above. The information in respect of others is not readily available.

84. **Rana Mahmood -ul- Hassan:**

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

- (a) *the total potential capacity of wheat production in the country at present;*
- (b) *the capacity of said production registered in the country during the current season; and*
- (c) *the steps taken to utilize the full potential capacity for production of said crop?*

**Minister for Food and Agriculture (Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal):**

(a) The Wheat varieties developed by the Pakistani scientists have the potential of producing 50 to 60 maunds per acre, if ideal conditions are provided *i.e.* favorable weather, water availability, use of recommended fertilizers, quality seeds, pest and disease control etc. and a fair return to the farmers. In other words if we do not increase areas under wheat cultivation country have a potential to produce upto 50 million tons per annum.

(b) We have fixed wheat production target of 25 million tons for the current crop (2009-10). The first estimates about production will be provided by the provincial governments during first week of April, 2010.

(c) The following steps are taken to harvest the production potential of wheat:

- (a) The Guaranteed Minimum Price (GMP) of wheat for 2009-10 crop has been announced at Rs. 950 per 40 kg before sowing season of the wheat crop.
- (b) Target of 7.5 million tones of wheat has been fixed for procurement by the public sector.
- (c) Ensuring timely availability of inputs like seed, fertilizer and pesticides/herbicides. The supply of Agri. Credit to farmers is also ensured.
- (d) The farmers are advised for judicious use of water and micro-management of irrigation water at local level through active coordination of irrigation and Agriculture Departments.
- (e) Under "Produce More Wheat Campaign" Provincial Agriculture Departments are disseminating information to the growers through media and field visits on production technology of wheat crop for increasing per acre yield.

85. **Ms. Nighat Parveen Mir:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

- (a) *whether there is any proposal to expand the footpath from outer gate of PIMS toward the main building; if so, when it will be implemented;*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that no waiting room has been constructed alongside the Emergency Room of the said Hospital; if so, whether there is any proposal to construct the said Room; and*
- (c) *whether it is also a fact that fee for a medical test is being charged from government employees by the said Hospital at the spot; if so, whether there is any proposal to provide facility by deferring the payment?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):** (a) A footpath already exists from outer gate of PIMS towards the main building. There is no proposal to expand the footpath at present.

(b) A waiting room is already available alongside the Accident and Emergency Department of PIMS. There is no proposal to construct another waiting room at present.

(c) No fee for a medical test is being charged from Federal Government Employees in Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences, Islamabad.

86. **Begum Nuzhat Sadiq:**

*Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state the names and addresses of these persons to whom Pakistan Railways land has been leased out during the months of September-October, 2009 alongwith the locations thereof?*

**Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmed Bilour):** Names and address of persons whom Railway land has been leased out during September-October, 2009 and locations thereof is attached as Annexure-A.

*(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)*

87. **Mr. Zafar Beg Bhattani:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

- (a) the total number of medical bills for re-imburement of the Federal Government employees countersigned by the PIMS authorities during the last one year alongwith the names of patients, relation with government employees, date of submission of those bills, date of countersignature and the amount of each bill;*
- (b) the names of Federal Government employees and patients who were provided medicines by PIMS Pharmacy during the said period alongwith the names of medicines provided to each patient;*
- (c) the names of medicines purchased by PIMS during the said period alongwith the amount thereof; and*
- (d) the number of medical bills for re-imburement presently pending for verification in PIMS?*

Deferred for answer on next Rota Day.

88. **Miss Palwasha Khan:**

*Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the total number of foreign visits made by the Pakistani Ambassadors At-large since March, 2008 till-date alongwith the names of countries visited and expenditure incurred thereupon?*

Reply not received.

89. **Mr. Mohammad Afzal Khokhar:**

*Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to refer to Starred Question No.95 replied on 11-11-2009 and to state the total number of Pakistani deportees who were facilitated by Pakistan Mission in China during the last five years for their safe deportation?*

Reply not received.

90. **Ms. Sabeen Rizvi:**

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

- (a) *the total number of Steno-typists presently working in PARC, Islamabad;*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that those incumbents have not been promoted to higher post for the last 18 years; if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (c) *the names of the employees of PARC who have been promoted during the said period alongwith their designations?*

Reply not received.

91. **Mr. Muhammad Riaz Malik:**

*Will the Minister for Social Welfare and Special Education be pleased to state:*

- (a) *whether it is a fact that Christians were provided financial assistance from Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal on Easter and Christmas during the last two years; if so, the per head amount thereof; and*
- (b) *the criteria adopted in the grant of said assistance?*

**Minister for Social Welfare and Special Education (Mrs. Samina Khalid Ghurki):** (a) Yes, it is true that Christians were provided financial assistance from Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal on Easter and Christmas during the last two years. An amount of Rs. 5.724 million has been provided to 633 beneficiaries during last two years. In addition, Rs. 9.064 million has also been distributed in the following categories to the Christian community during the said period.

S. No	Category	No. of Persons	Amount (Rs. in million)
1	Medical	116	8.276
2	Hearing aids	05	0.092
3	Education	06	0.076
4	Special Friends	59	0.620
<b>Total:</b>		<b>186</b>	<b>9.064</b>

The detail of these beneficiaries is enclosed at **Annex-I**.

(b) Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal provides financial assistance to the deserving persons on provision of application on plain paper by the individual containing residential address, signature or thumb impression alongwith a copy of National Identity Card (NADRA NIC). After verification of deservedly status in the light of criteria approved by Bait-ul-Mal Board,

- i. Applicant is not government servant.
- ii. Per month income is not over Rs. 6000/-.

The case is further processed and a crossed cheque is issued at the address of individual applicant. For the convenience of general public PBM have its offices in each district countrywide. Poor, widows, destitute women, orphans and disabled persons are supported through general assistance education, and medical treatment on first come first basis.

*(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)*

92. **Ms. Qudsia Arshad:**

*Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the present status of completion on Karachi Circular Railways; and*
- (b) *whether the old tracks of the said Circular Railways will be repaired or new tracks will be laid?*

**Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmed Bilour):** (a) Present status of Karachi Circular Railway (KCR) Project:—

- ◆ Final Study on the KCR Project has been carried out by the donor agency namely JICA, and on the basis of this Study, PC-I of the Project amounting to US\$1558.8 Million [Rs.128 Billion as per present exchange rate Rs.82.5 per \$] has been approved by the Planning Commission in ECNEC meeting held on 03-09-2009.
- ◆ Environmental Impact Assessment Study approved on 04-07-2009 by the Environmental Protection Agency, Government of Sindh.
- ◆ Satellite Imagery of KCR Route completed on 26-10-09 by SUPARCO.
- ◆ Validation of JICA Final Study, as directed by Planning Commission, is in progress and expected to be completed in the first week of April 2010.

- ◆ The Donor Agency has made it mandatory to complete the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) which interalia includes the identification and finalization of the land to be provided for the settlement of the encroachers prior to the signing of the loan agreement. The Draft RAP Report has been furnished to JICA on 14-1-2010 and observations received are being addressed and Final report will be furnished at the end of this Month.
- ◆ Transfer of land title by Railways to Karachi Urban Transport Corporation (KUTC) is essential for completion of Resettlement Action Plan [RAP] Study.
- ◆ Allocation and transfer of 357.5 acres of land at Jumma Goth for Resettlement of Project Affected Persons of KCR, transfer of entire land available on KCR loop and land along mainline Karachi City to Drigh for right of way to be transferred to KUTC by Railways.
- ◆ Work will be started in 2010 and operation will be opened for public within 3 years (*i.e.* 2014) subject to transfer of land.

(b) Existing old track and stations are deteriorated and will be replaced by providing double tracks along KCR loop (30 kms) and two dedicated KCR tracks along Up mainline (14 Kms) from Karachi City station to Drigh Road station.

93. **Raja Muhammad Asad Khan:**

*Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the names of the Federal Government employees who got medical treatment abroad on government expense during the year 2008-09 alongwith the justification thereof; and*
- (b) *the total expenditure incurred for the said treatment?*

**Minister for Health (Makhdoom Shahabuddin):** (a) No Federal Government employee got medical treatment abroad on government expense during the year 2008-09.

(b) Nil.

94. **Mrs. Bushra Rehman:**

*Will the Minister for Social Welfare and Special Education be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the number of local Welfare NGOs functioning in Pakistan;*
- (b) *the number of NGOs getting funds from foreign countries at present; and*
- (c) *the authority which monitor the utilization of said fund?*

**Minister for Social Welfare and Special Education (Mrs. Samina Khalid Ghurki):** (a) It is estimated that almost 100,000 NGOs/CBOs are working in Pakistan which includes around 60,000 to 70,000 NGOs registered under major laws regulating the civil society sector.

Due to fragmented registration regime, the exact and authentic information about the number of local welfare NGOs functioning in Pakistan is not known.

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education is in the process of developing a centralized database of NGOs and have captured data of 44,000 NGOs registered by various authorities at district, provincial and federal level. This process is still on to get the data about remaining registered organizations.

(b) Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education has no data of the NGOs in Pakistan being funded by the foreign countries. Ministry is providing funds to local NGOs only through financial assistance provided by the Government of Pakistan.

However, foreign NGOs working in the country which get funds from foreign countries are being registered by Ministry of Economic Affairs.

(c) Respective registration authority has the powers to monitor the utilization of funds under which such a particular NGO is registered.

95. **Mr. Riaz Fatyana:**

*Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the name, designation and domicile of persons hailing from T.T. Singh (NA-94) who have been appointed in the Ministry since March, 2008 till date; and*
- (b) *the criteria adopted in the appointments made in the Ministry during the said period?*

**Minister for Railway (Haji Ghulam Ahmed Bilour):** (a) and (b) No person having domicile of T.T Singh (NA-94) has been appointed in this Ministry since March, 2008 till date. However, persons having Punjab domicile have been appointed according advertisement and prescribed percentage of quota.

96. **Ch. Anwar Ali Cheema:**

*Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:*

- (a) *whether it is a fact that Millat Express train hit a vehicle at an unmanned railway level crossing at Chak No.87, Shamali (North), Tehsil and District Sargodha during the month of January, 2010;*

- (b) *whether it is also a fact that two person died, and several others were injured in the said accident;*
- (c) *if the answer to part (a) and (b) above be in affirmative, whether any financial compensation given/announced for the victims of the said accident; if so, the detail thereof?*

**Minister for Railway (Haji Ghulam Ahmed Bilour):** (a) On 10-01-2010 at 18.44 hours, Miilat Express, running between Charnali and Sargodha railway station was struck by a truck No.LHN-4457, crossing the railway track through an un-manned level crossing (No.69).

(b) One person died and six sustained serious injuries (occupants of the truck).

(c) Compensation for death or injury to passengers on board, where the accident has taken place in the course of working a Railway is governed by Section-82(a) of the Railway Act-IX, 1890:

“Provided that where in such accident, a. person other than a passenger dies or injured, the Railway Administration shall, after such inquiry as to the wrongful act, neglect or default of Railway Administration, pay compensation to the heirs of the deceased or, as the case may be to the injured”

Financial compensation in this case is not admissible to the victims as it has been established in the inquiry that the accident took place due to negligence of the truck driver as he failed to observe section-91/1 of the Motor Vehicle Ordinance 1965.

The case also does not fail within the purview of section-82(a) of the Railway Act as the accident was caused due to negligence or willful act of the truck driver.

KARAMAT HUSSAIN NIAZI,  
*Secretary.*

ISLAMABAD:  
*The 21st February, 2010.*