

(14th Session)

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

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

Monday, the 4th August, 2014

136. * **Ms. Shaista Pervaiz:**
(Deferred during 9th Session)

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the time by which the additional energy requirements of the textile sector will be met in order to take benefits from GSP Plus scheme from European Union; and*
- (b) *the mechanism devised to comply with the conditionalities of said scheme?*

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): (a) Presently the country is facing severe shortage of energy due to huge gap between demand and supply of electricity which has increasing trend because of severe hot weather. In order to bridge the gap, load management for all categories is being carried out by DISCOs keeping in view the orders of Honorable Supreme Court of Pakistan for equitable load shedding.

However, Government is striving hard on war-footing basis for enhancement of generation capacity. Generation plan showing the total power to be generated through various resources in the country during next four year is attached as **Annex-A**. As soon as the position improves, the textile sector will be given maximum relief in due course of time. As per National Power System Expansion Plan prepared by NTDCL, which is being updated regularly. the power balance based on the above said plan indicates that the duration of load shedding will be decreased gradually and hopefully eliminated during 2018-19 subject to the implementation of the said plan. Copy of power balance is attached as **Annex-B**.

(b) Honourable Prime Minister of Pakistan has setup a treaty Implementation Cell (TIC) with Kh. Zaheer Ahmed. (Special Assistant to the Prime Minister) as its convener. Secretary Commerce, Secretary Law, Justice and Human Rights and Secretaries of Law departments from all the federating units as members. The TIC has held two meetings so far. Joint secretary, Ministry of Commerce is its Secretary and Ministry of Commerce is its secretariat. The ToRs of TIC are:

- To oversee the formulation of an effective mechanism in consultation with all Provincial Government and relevant Federal Ministries/ divisions/ Agencies to enable the Provincial Government as well as the Federal agencies concerned for effective implementation of the ratified Conventions:
- To develop identical protocols for implementation which can work as effective tools for Provincial and Federal Governments to regularly document the progress made; and
- To help and guide the Provincial Governments for formulation of templates which can provide for reporting in prescribed and tabulated formats and generation of reports on compliance, in line with the international best practices.
- The Committee shall submit its recommendations for consideration by the Prime Minister in four weeks. Ministry of Commerce shall provide Secretarial support to the Committee while Joint Secretary (WTO), Ministry of Commerce shall work as Secretary to the Committee.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

155. * **Ms. Munaza Hassan:**
(Deferred during 11th Session)

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Government to protect the children rights specially to eliminete child labour?

Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (Pir Syed Sadruddin Shah Rashidi): After 18th amendment, the subject of 'Labour' has been devolved to the Provincial Governments. The Provinces are taking administrative & legal steps to eliminate child labour & protect child rights as provided in the Constitution & various Acts as well as international Conventions, for which Federal Government is extending all possible support to them. Few steps taken in this regard are:—

- A project titled “Combating Abusive Child Labour” has been completed in December, 2013 in District Sahiwal, Punjab and District Sukkur, Sindh with the help of International Labour Organization (ILO) under which 8000 children were rehabilitated. Punjab Government has planned to launch similar projects in other districts with its own resources.
- Labour Departments of all the Provinces are taking cognizance of violation of child labour and the violators have been punished by the competent court of law.
- Provinces are also working to introduce schemes to combat child & Bonded labour. The Punjab has allocated Rs.500 million and KPK Rs.14 million in their ADPs to combat child labour.

156. * **Ms. Munaza Hassan:**
(Deferred during 11th Session)

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that Child Domestic Labour (CDL) has been declared as the worst shape of slavery according to the Constitution of Pakistan and ILO's Convention (138, 182, 189) rectified by Pakistan;*
- (b) *if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?*

Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (Pir Syed Sadruddin Shah Rashidi): (a) Article 11(3) of the constitution of Pakistan, forbids employment of children below the age of fourteen in any factory, mine or any other hazardous employment.

ILO's Convention C-182, which deals with worst form of Child Labour, does not declare Child Domestic Labour as worst shape of slavery. The worst forms of Child Labour have been determined by the Employment of Children Act 1991, as Provided by Article 4 of the ILO Convention C-182.

(b) After the 18th Constitution Amendment the subject of Child Labour has been devolved to the Provinces.

The Provinces are in the Process to suitably amend the Employment of Children Act 1991 in line with the provisions of ILO Conventions C-138 and C-182. In this regard, the Ministry in collaboration with ILO is actively assisting the Provincial Governments.

1. ***Ms. Shakila Luqman:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total number of Pakistani fishermen imprisoned in India at present; and*
- (b) *the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for their release?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs: (a) As per office record, at present 168 Pakistani fishermen are detained in Indian jails.

(b) The Government of Pakistan is cognizant of the matter and has consistently raised the issue of repatriation of all Pakistani prisoners including fishermen in Indian jails. This is a humanitarian issue and remains high on the priority list of this Ministry.

This Ministry has taken the following steps in this regard:

- (a) Recently, as a result of the efforts of this Ministry, the Indian side released 21 Pakistani prisoners including 18 fishermen on 16th April 2014.
- (b) The High Commission for Pakistan, New Delhi provides legal assistance including arranging lawyers and payment of fines.

Procedure: As soon as this Ministry receives any information regarding a Pakistani Fisherman in Indian jail, our High Commission in New Delhi is asked to approach the concerned Indian authorities for provision of consular access. After meeting the prisoner in jail, the Ministry of Interior is requested to confirm national status of the prisoner or fisherman. Upon confirmation of national status, our High Commission in New Delhi issues travel documents and approaches the Indian authorities for early release and repatriation of the fisherman.

2. ***Ms. Shakila Luqman:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names of the countries declared favourite for trade with Pakistan so far; and*
- (b) *the benefits accrued therefrom during the year 2013-14 till date?*

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): (a) Pakistan is a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) since its inception in 1995 and all the members of WTO have granted each other Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status by virtue of their WTO membership. Thus, Pakistan has granted MFN status to all the members of WTO on the basis of reciprocity, except India and Israel.

(b) Pakistan liberalized its trade regime after becoming member of WTO in 1995. Resultantly Pakistan's total trade (Trade in Goods and Services) with the world has increased from US\$ 20.51 billion in 1995-96 to US\$ 69.41 billion in 2013-14 (Source: Federal Bureau of Statistics) Pakistan is now integrated with the world economies and accruing benefits in terms of tariff concession and getting easy access to WTO member's markets.

3. ***Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb:**

Will the Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to resolve the dispute of recognition between International Olympic and Pakistan Olympic Associations?

Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination (Mr. Riaz Husain Pirzada): The Government of Pakistan is impartial in the affairs of Pakistan Olympic

Association (POA) and cannot interfere as per International Olympic Committee (IOC) charter. However, the Government is very keen to resolve the issues once for all for the promotion of sports and to protect the Olympic Movement in Pakistan in accordance with the IOC Charter. The last meeting of Government of Pakistan representative (Secretary, IPC) was held on 4th October 2013 with IOC to clarify Pakistan's position and to educate IOC on the ground realities. A roadmap for further course of action was also decided in this meeting.

Ministry of Inter Provincial Coordination (IPC) and Pakistan Sports Board (PSB) are working in close collaboration with IOC, for fact finding process to ascertain the genuineness of National Sports Federations in Pakistan.

IOC has asked the Government of Pakistan to review its National Sports Policy and certain clauses of the Pakistan Sports Board Rules 1981. It has also conveyed that in case these matters are not resolved, IOC may consider sanctions against Pakistan.

In this regard, Minister for IPC had nominated Mr. Muhammad Ejaz Chaudhry, Secretary, IPC as Focal Person to resolve the issues amicably.

A meeting between Ministry of IPC representatives with officials of IOC/OCA and POA was held on 19th June 2014 at IOC HQs, Lausanne, Switzerland. As per decisions by IOC:

- (i) IOC recognizes only one POA, currently headed by Lt. Gen (R) Syed Arif Hasan, which is duly elected under. POA must be reinstated in its office and access its bank account before the next IOC, Executive Board meeting, *i.e.* by 4 July 2014.
- (ii) Government of Pakistan will immediately issue a letter to POA President Lt Gen. (R) Arif Hasan to confirm its full support to the POA, and to take all necessary measures as requested by POA.
- (iii) The Government of Pakistan confirmed that the disputed clauses 4(ii-a) and 4 (xi) have been removed from the PSB Rules and are no longer applicable.
- (iv) The two terms (tenure restriction) policy was defended. However the IOC was of the position that there should be no Government

interference and the POA should call a General Council meeting of the Sports Federations and they should be free to decide if the Tenure Restriction clauses of Sports Policy should be applicable to the Federations and the POA. The Government should give an undertaking that it will respect the decisions. As these decision are not hit by any Court decision and are in National Interest, the same are being complied to bring an end to an unwieldy situation of running parallel bodies and to ensure that Pakistan's is not banned in International Sports.

4. ***Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb:**

Will the Minister for State and Frontier Regions be pleased to state whether it is a fact that ban has been imposed on issuance of domiciles to minorities in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA); if so, the reasons thereof?

Minister for States and Frontier Regions [Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Quadir Baloch]: No. ban has been imposed on the issuance of domicile certificates to the minorities in FATA.

In FATA, Domicile Certificates are issued only to native tribal residents who are bound to fulfill community responsibilities under the Frontier Crimes Regulation (FCR). Whereas Minority Community, who come from different parts of Pakistan in search of jobs, are not a part of Tribal System. Therefore, they are not eligible for Domiciles. However, local Administration grants Permanent Residential Certificates to them. Which carries the same weightage as tribal Domicile and can be used for all purposes for which a Domicile certificate may be required.

5. ***Ms. Aisha Syed:**

Will the Minister for States and Frontier Regions be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to repeal or amend the Frontier Crime Regulation (FCR) for granting equal rights to the residents of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA);*
- (b) *if so, when it will be implemented; if not, the reasons thereof?*

Minister for States and Frontier Regions [Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Quadir Baloch]: (a) No proposal is under consideration to repeal FCR. As with other laws, the FCR can be amended at any time as when required.

(b) In August, 2011, the President of Pakistan has already promulgated file Frontier Crimes (Amendment) Regulation 2011, which was drafted after due consultation with the tribal people *i.e* Maliks/elders parliamentarians and legal fraternity. In future if there is any need to further amend the FCR, it would also be done after consultation with all stake holders.

6. ***Ms. Aisha Syed:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total number of Iranians annually imprisoned in Pakistan at present alongwith the allegations therefor; and*
- (b) *the number of Pakistanis annually Imprisoned in Iran at present alongwith the allegations therefor?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs: (a) As per the information available with this Ministry, there are 9 Iranian nationals detained in various Pakistani Jails.

(b) As per the information available with our Mission in Tehran, there are presently 234 Pakistani prisoners detained in various Iranian Jails over crimes ranging from forgery to narcotics smuggling.

7. ***Ms. Asyia Naz Tanoli:**

Will the Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to hire the services of a foreign coach for Davis Cup Tournament (DCT);*
- (b) *the total number of players who will be trained for the DCT;*
- (c) *whether there is also any proposal under consideration of the Government to give training to Pakistani players in Hard Court; and*

- (d) *whether special attention is being given to the fitness of said players to improve their performance for DCT?*

Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination (Mr. Riaz Hussain Pirzada): (a) Pakistan Sports Board (PSB) has affiliated Pakistan Tennis Federation for promotion of Tennis Sport in the country. PSB releases grants-in-aid to the federation for meeting its national and international commitments.

Pakistan Tennis Federation is not considering to acquire the services of foreign coach for the preparation of Pakistan Davis Cup team. Top tennis player Mr. Aisam ul Haq Qureshi is already participating in International tournaments abroad. Mr. Aqeel Khan will be sent for participating in the international tournaments abroad to improve his tennis, skills and fitness.

(b) Pakistan Davis Cup Team has qualified for the final of Asian Oceania Davis Cup Group-II, 2014. Pakistan team will play final against Thailand from 12th to 14th September, 2014 at Bangkok, Thailand.

A total number of 06 to 08 players will be trained during the training camp to be organized for 20 days prior to Davis Cup Tie.

(c) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to give training to Pakistani players in Hard Court because the next Davis Cup Tie will be played on Synthetic surface. Therefore, the training camp for Davis Cup Tie will be organized on Synthetic Courts either in Islamabad, Lahore or Karachi.

(d) Special attention is always given on the fitness of players. Physio/Trainer remained with the team during the training camp as well as during the Davis Cup Tie matches.

8. ***Dr. Nisar Ahmad Jatt:**

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total amount of Workers Welfare Fund invested in Commercial Banks during the last five years; and*
- (b) *the bank and scheme-wise details thereof?*

Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (Pir Syed Sadruddin Shah Rashidi): (a) and (b) No investment has been made by Workers Welfare Fund in any Commercial Bank during the last five years.

9. ***Dr. Nisar Ahmad Jatt:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the impacts of SRO issued by Establishment Division on 10th February, 2014 regarding the performance/work of the Commerce and Trade Group; and*
- (b) *whether the Ministry was consulted before issuance of said SRO to the Ministry; if so, the recommendations; if not, the reasons thereof?*

Minister for Commerce (Khurram Dastagir Khan): (a) The said S.R.O. primarily deals with reserved seats in various grades in the Secretariat for Pakistan Administrative Services and *interalia* for other Service Groups including Commerce and Trade Group; cadre strength is not affected as such however, its share in Secretariat is yet to be determined by Establishment Division.

(b) Ministry of Commerce was not consulted before issuance of said SRO dated 10-02-2014 (copy enclosed). With regards to reasons for not consulting the Ministry of Commerce, it is informed that the question is better suited to Establishment Division.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

10. ***Mrs. Shahida Rehmani:**

Will the Minister for States and Frontier Regions be pleased to state the time by which Afghan Refugees will be repatriated from Pakistan to their homeland?

Minister for States and Frontier Regions [Lt. General (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch]: Currently, repatriation of registered Afghan refugees is undertaken on “voluntary basis” as per Tripartite Agreement between the Governments of Afghanistan & Pakistan and UNHCR, which is valid till 31st December, 2015 as per decision of the Cabinet dated 25th July, 2013.

All out efforts are underway to repatriate majority of the remaining 1.6 million registered Afghan refugees by December, 2015 on voluntary basis. In this regard, the Repatriation Package being paid to each returnee has also been enhanced from US\$ 150 to US\$ 200 from January, 2014 with a view to attract maximum repatriation.

However, to deal with the issue of repatriation of remaining Afghan refugees after December, 2015, the Cabinet has constituted a high-level Ministerial Committee to make feasible recommendations.

11. ***Mrs. Shahida Rehmani:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the year-wise quantity of yarn exported from Pakistan to China during the last three years?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan):

Pakistan's Exports of Cotton Yarn

(US\$ Million)

Export	2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		
	Unit	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
China	KG	242.895	1.000	370.617	1.085	536.951	1.561

Source:—PBS

12. ***Sahibzada Muhammad Yaqub:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the present relations of Pakistan with Saudi Arabia and USA?

Minister for Foreign Affairs:

Pakistan-Saudi Arabia Relations:

Pakistan and Saudi Arabia enjoy special relations that are based on common faith and history. The two countries share common perceptions on regional and international issues of mutual interest. Both countries attach great significance to their strategic relations that have continued to gain strength from strength. The bilateral relationship with Saudi Arabia is marked by a high degree of trust and brotherhood. Regular exchange of high-level visits is a hallmark of this relationship.

2. Saudi Arabia has provided financial support to Pakistan on numerous occasions, particularly during times of economic crises.

3. Another indicator of Saudi Arabia's importance to us is the fact that it is home to the largest number of Pakistani expatriates, approximately one and a half million. Saudi-based Pakistanis are a large source of the much-needed foreign remittances to Pakistani economy.

4. There has been a regular exchange of high level visits between the two sides.

ECONOMIC AND TRADE RELATIONS

5. Saudi-Pakistan trade relations are healthy and there is a good potential for increasing the quantum of bilateral trade. While the bulk of our imports consists of POL products, our exports are mainly confined to textile and food items with very low share of manufactured products. The balance of trade is in favour of Saudi Arabia due to the costly oil imports, worth over \$ 3.4 billion per year from Saudi Arabia.

6. The statistics of bilateral trade in the last five years is given below:

(Values in US \$ Million)

Year	Exports	Imports	Total trade	Balance
2007-08	380.1	5330.4	5710.5	(1- 4950.3)
2008-09	455.6	4288.5	4744.1	(- 3832.8)
2009-10	393.1	3385.6	3778.7	(- 2292.5)
2010-11	427.5	4546.6	4974.1	(- 4119.1)
2011-12	418.3	5032.2	5450.5	(- 4613.9)
2012-13	488.1	3455.7	3943.8	(- 2967.6)

Source: EAD

JOINT MINISTERIAL COMMISSION

7. The 10th Session Pak-Saudi Joint Ministerial Commission was held in Riyadh on 15-16 April 2014. From Pakistan, Engineer Khurram Dastagir Khan, Minister for Trade led the delegation. From Saudi Arabia, Dr. Tawfiq Bin Fawzan Al-Rabiah, Minister of Commerce and Industry led the delegation.

SAUDI FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN

8. In the Earthquake of 2005, Saudi Arabia had pledged an amount of US\$ 573 million for various projects. Most of the amount has been utilized.

9. Saudi Arabia actively participated in Friends of Democratic Pakistan (FODP) meetings. The Kingdom pledged an amount of US\$ 700 million soft loan. Almost the entire amount pledged has been disbursed.

10. During the Pakistan Development Forum (2010), Saudi Arabia pledged an amount of US\$ 400 million. US\$ 100 million was credit for import of Urea. This amount has been utilized. Soft loan to the tune of US\$ 300 million was for various infrastructure development projects which are at various stages of consideration by both sides.

11. Pakistan and Saudi Arabia have signed an Additional Loan Agreement of US\$ 100 million for Neelum - Jhelum Hydropower Project in 2013. The Saudi Fund for Development has approved US\$ 125 million credit for import of Urea for the financial year 2013-14. The Kingdom has pledged an amount of US\$ 58 million for Golen Gol Hydropower Project. Saudi Arabia has also committed US\$ 100 million as grant assistance for the various other development projects.

PAKISTANI COMMUNITY

12. Saudi Arabia is home to the largest number of Pakistan expatriates, approximately one and half million. They are a large source of much needed foreign remittances to Pakistani economy, increasing from US\$ 309 million in 2000 to US\$ 4.1 billion in 2013. We should, therefore, propose Bilateral Consular Consultations and Labour Consultations between concerned departments to ensure coordinated action for the welfare of the expatriate Pakistani community.

13. We may also propose to the Kingdom joint action with Pakistani government on opening of vocational training institutes specifically meant for training

manpower for Saudi markets. Apart from professional courses in specific technical fields, the institutes could also hold short “crash” courses to teach basic Arabic. It could also culturally familiarize them about Saudi Arabia. These courses would ensure better delivery of services in the Saudi market.

14. The remittances for the last five years are:

(US\$ Million)

Year	Remittances
2007-08	1251.3
2008-09	1559.6
2009-10	1917.7
2010-11	2670.1
2011-12	3700.0
2012-13	4101.0

Source: SBP

NITAQAT PROGRAM

15. In light of the recent Saudization drive (Nitaqat Program) the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its Mission in—Riyadh and Jeddah took elaborate measures including issuing passports to thousands of Pakistanis, holding job fairs at the Missions, establishing focal points in all the major cities of the Kingdom, deputing special consular teams and facilitation desks at the Kingdom airports ensuring that the impact of the Program be minimized on Pakistanis. The measures resulted in legalization/regularization of around 9,50,000 (nine hundred and fifty thousand) Pakistani workers in the Kingdom.

DEFENCE RELATIONS

16. Pakistan maintains decades-old and close military ties with Saudi Arabia, providing extensive support, arms and training for the armed forces of Saudi Arabia. Regular port calls by our naval vessels and high level defence visits are another feature of the relationship. At present, over 1100 defence deputationists are serving in the Kingdom. A large number of Saudi personnel continue to avail courses in Pakistan.

17. Training has also been provided to over 8255 Saudi armed forces personnel in Pakistan since 1967. The two sides regularly hold Joint Military Cooperation Committee (JMCC) meetings. The two countries have Protocol Agreement regarding Deputation of Pakistan Armed Personnel and Military Training (December 1982); Military Cooperation Agreement (July 2005); and Provision of Military Training Services between MoI of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Pakistan (May 2007).

Pakistan-US Relations

18. Relations with the United States constitute an important element of Pakistan's foreign policy. This relationship, spanning more than six decades, has been marked by periods of engagement and estrangement. The government considers this relationship vital for peace and security in the region. It is a priority of the PML-N government to strengthen ties with the US. Following elections in May 2013, the US Government appreciated "historic, peaceful and transparent transfer of civilian power" and President Obama spoke by phone with Mr. Nawaz Sharif on the success of PML-N in the Parliamentary elections. Since May 2013, relations between Pakistan and the United States have continued to improve. The thaw in relations came during the visit of US Secretary of State John Kerry to Pakistan in August 2013. The frequency of high level interaction has taken place and the Strategic Dialogue revived.

19. At the invitation of President Obama, **the Prime Minister paid an official visit to the United States 20–23 October 2013.** Prime Minister visit to the United States took place in the backdrop of smooth democratic transition in Pakistan. The Prime Minister met with the U.S. President. He also held substantive talks with Vice President Joe Biden and other senior Administrative officials including US Secretary of State John Kerry, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel, Treasury Secretary, Jacob Lew and US Trade Representative Michael Froman. The Joint Statement issued on the occasion noted that Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and President Obama reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen U.S.-Pakistan relations and advance shared interests towards a stable, secure, and prosperous Pakistan and the region. President Obama reiterated US support for ongoing programs to strengthen Pakistan's economy and increase agricultural productivity. He also pledged continue support to help Pakistan to address its energy shortfall. President Obama appreciated Pakistan's constructive engagement with the Nuclear Security Summit (NSS) process and its cooperation with IAEA and other international forums. The two sides also renewed the Science and Technology Agreement for a period of 5 years.

20. Earlier, the Prime Minister visited New York (23-29 September 2013) to attend the United Nations General Assembly. On the sidelines, the US Secretary of State John Kerry called on the Prime Minister and discussed bilateral and regional issues. The Prime Minister briefed Secretary Kerry about Pakistan's support to the Afghan-led peace and reconciliation process in Afghanistan.

21. On the sidelines of the Nuclear Security Summit held in The Hague (24-25 March 2014), **US Secretary of State John Kerry called on Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif**. Secretary Kerry publicly expressed "great confidence in Pakistan's nuclear security," and noted that the two countries were "deeply engaged".

22. **The Ministerial Review Meeting of the Strategic Dialogue was held on 27-28 January, 2014**. Pakistan side was led by Advisor on National Security and Foreign Affairs Mr. Sartaj Aziz while Secretary of State John Kerry led the US delegation. The Ministerial meeting built on Prime Minister's official visit to Washington in October 2013 and gave an opportunity to the two sides to undertake a comprehensive review of the entire relationship between the two countries and to discuss the progress made by the Working Groups. Out of the five Working Groups of the Strategic Dialogue, working groups on Energy, Security, Strategic Stability and Non Proliferation, Defence and Economy and Finance have been already met.

23. **Finance Minister Ishaq Dar visited Washington** from 7-11 April, 2014 to lead Pakistan's delegation for the meeting of Pakistan-US Working Group on Economy and Finance in Washington on April 9, 2014. Finance Minister also held meetings with other senior U.S. officials and briefed his interlocutors in detail on the important initiatives taken by the Government to bring about macro-economic stability and growth in the economy.

24. **Defence relations** have also continued to further strengthen. **The US Secretary Defense, Chuck Hagel, visited Pakistan on 9 December 2013**. During his stay in Islamabad, Secretary Defense called on Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif held in-depth exchanges on the whole range of issues of mutual interest.

25. The 22nd DCG meeting took place in Washington from 18-23 November 2013. Both sides appreciated the continued cooperation in CIED cooperation, GLOCs, cross-border coordination and reinforced continuing U.S.

assistance in capacity building programs in counter terrorism, counter insurgency, counter narcotics and maritime security. Pakistan and the United States conducted a joint naval exercise 'Inspired Union' from 18-24 November 2013. US Navy Secretary Raymond Edwin Mabus led the US Navy team for this exercise and met with Advisor on National Security and Foreign Affairs. US Deputy Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter visited Pakistan on 16 September 2013. US Senator Carl Levin, Chairman Armed Services Committee visited Pakistan on 07 January 2013.

26. As Pakistan's biggest trade partner, United States is a key market for Pakistani textile and apparel exports. The Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) provides the framework for cooperation in trade between the two countries. Bilateral trade showed growth in 2013. Exports from Pakistan to the United States increased from the first half of 2012 to 2013 by 4.% whereas imports from the US into Pakistan increased by 10%. During the Prime Minister's visit to Washington DC last year, it was agreed that the two countries would develop a joint action plan to expand trade and investment flows between Pakistan and the United States over the next five years.

27. The 7th meeting of **Pakistan-US TIFA Council meeting** was held in Washington on 13th May 2014, Pakistan's side was led by Minister of Commerce Engineer Khurram Dastgir Khan and the US side was led by Ambassador Michael Froman. An agreement on a Joint Action Plan to expand bilateral trade and investment flows over the next five years was announced after the meeting. A MOU on Joint Efforts to Empower Women and to Promote Women's Entrepreneurship was also signed.

28. In the post-2014 phase after the drawdown of foreign forces from Afghanistan, Pakistan seeks relationship with US that is based on shared values and a commitment to promote shared goals through joint efforts. Our relationship has strategic significance for both sides. Pakistan believes that relations with the US should develop on their own merit, and not as a function of relations with other countries. The Strategic Dialogue process provides a useful forum to promote cooperation in a range of areas. Ties between the two countries are in the interest of both countries as well as our region.

13. ***Sahibzada Muhammad Yaqub:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the year-wise quantity of Livestock and Sufaida (Poplar) exported to Afghanistan during the last five years alongwith the names of companies thereof; and*
- (b) *the prescribed criteria to obtain the license for said exports?*

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): (a) As reported by the Ministry of National Food Security & Research Ministry, a total number of 156,296 live animals were exported to Afghanistan during the last five years. The year-wise break-up is as under:—

Year	Cattle/Bufferaloes
2009-10	49324
2010-11	56040
2011-12	27887
2012- 2013	23045
Total:	156,296

Source: MONFS&R

A list containing names of the companies is at **Annex-I**.

As regards the export of Sufaida (Popular), it is banned as per Sr. No. 15 & 16 of Schedule-I of Export Policy Order, 2013.

(b) Ministry of National Food Security & Research has stipulated the following documentary requirements to apply for the export of live animals:

- i. NIC number or firm or company's registration documents.

- ii. Confirmed orders for supply of live animals for meat purposes.
- iii. NTN of Income Tax department.

The applications are entertained on first come first serve basis, by the Animal Quarantine Offices (AQD) located at Karachi, Quetta, Peshawar & Islamabad.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

14. ***Sahibzada Tariq Ullah:**

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to deliver pension at the residences of pensioners of Old Age Benefit Institution;*
- (b) *if so, when it will be implemented; if not, the reasons thereof?*

Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (Pir Syed Sadaruddin Shah Rashidi): (a) At present no such proposal is under consideration. However, EOBI is considering to provide ATM cards to the pensioners so that they can draw their pensions from the bank of their choice.

(b) o The proposal to deliver the pension at the residences of pensioners is not feasible for the following reasons:

- (a) It will require additional financial & Human resources.
- (b) It will not be safe & efficient as compared to other modern channels which have been adopted by EOBI for delivery of pension, *e.g.*
 - (i) Delivery through NBP branches
 - (ii) Easy paisa out-lets
 - (iii) NADRA e-Sahulat outlets

- o The proposal to provide ATM Card will be implemented from the next financial year.

15. ***Syed Naveed Qamar:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the impediments in opening of Khokhrapar border for trade between India and Pakistan at present; and*
- (b) *the detail of losses incurred by the traders of Sindh on account of the additional cost of transportation of their goods to or from Wahgah during the year 2013-14?*

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): (a) During the visit of Indian Commerce Minister to Pakistan held on 13-16 February, 2012, the two sides, among other things, agreed that possibilities of opening route for trade will be explored in consultation with the stakeholders (**Annex-I**). Presently, there are infrastructure issues like lack of road networking for operationalization of the route for trade and non-availability of Customs' setup at port. This Ministry is in the process of consultations with the relevant stakeholders on development of the infrastructure at Khokharapar Munabao for trade purposes.

(b) It is difficult to bifurcate the quantum of trade carried out by traders of Sindh through Wagah and the seaports at Karachi, as in a significant number of cases the latter is a cheaper option for them. Furthermore, the route through which the traders of Sindh opt to trade also depends upon the origin of their imports in India or destination of their exports to India. Nevertheless, the Ministry of Commerce recognizes that opening of trade through Kokharapar / Munabao would further lower the cost of doing business for businesses in Sindh. It was in this backdrop that was agreed in principle with the Indian side to constitute a Joint Working Group to explore the possibility of opening this route for trade. Presently, the matter is under discussion with the stakeholders to achieve this objective.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

16, *Syed Naveed Qamar:

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the Impediments of granting Most Favorite Nation status to India?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): The Commerce Ministers of Pakistan and India held a meeting on January 18, 2014 in New Delhi, India. During the meeting, the two sides, *inter-alia*, reached an understanding to normalize trade relations and extend Non-Discriminatory Market Access to each other on reciprocal basis. The Joint Statement issued on this occasion is enclosed as **Annex-I**.

The Ministry of Commerce is in the process of consultation with the relevant stakeholders both from public and private sectors to devise a mechanism to ensure provision of level playing field to our agriculture and industry *vis-a-vis* India, On the completion of this process, the issue of grant of NDMA status to India would be submitted for consideration of the Cabinet.

Annexure-I

Joint Press Statement of the Commerce Ministers of India and Pakistan

At the invitation of the Commerce & Industry Minister of India Shri Anand Sharma, the Commerce & Textile Industry Minister of Pakistan Mr. Khurram Dastgir Khan visited India from 16th to 18th January, 2014 to attend the 5th SAARC Business Leaders Conclave.

2. The Ministerial meeting on the margin of the Conclave was preceded by consultations at the level of the Secretaries Commerce of the two countries on matters related to economic and trade relations between Pakistan and India.

3. Both Ministers reaffirmed the commitment of their Governments to expeditiously establish normal trading relations and in this context to provide Non-Discriminatory Market Access (NDMA), on a reciprocal basis. They decided to intensify and accelerate the process of trade normalization, liberalization and facilitation and to implement the agreed measures before the end of February, 2014.

4. The Ministers noted with satisfaction that arrangements have been implemented by both sides to keep the Wagah – Attari Land Customs Station

operational on all seven days of each week. The Ministers emphasized the importance of trade facilitation measures and directed their respective Ministries to work out modalities for containerization of cargo, allowing all tradeable items by land route at Wagah, liberalization of business visa regime and enhancing operational hours at Wagha / Attari and to consider such other measures as deemed necessary by the business communities of the two countries.

5. The Ministers agreed that both sides will convene the meetings of the technical working groups of Customs, Railways, Banking, Standards organizations and Energy to devise the modalities for effective implementation of all requisite measures.

6. The Ministers noted with satisfaction that there has been enhanced interaction between the business communities of both countries. Several trade delegations have been received on either side. A Joint Business Forum of Chief Executive Officers in different sectors have also met twice after the formation of the present Pakistan Government. Several sub groups have been formed by this Joint Business Forum to enhance trade cooperation in diverse sector such as textiles, tourism, energy, light engineering, pharmaceuticals and others. The third meeting of this Joint Business Forum is scheduled in Pakistan for mid-February, 2014.

7. With the objective of enhancing bilateral trade opportunities, FICCI and the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan are also coordinating an “India Show” in Lahore in mid-February, 2014. This will build upon the success that was achieved on the business front through the similar India Show in Lahore in February, 2012. It is envisaged that as part of the India Show activities, artists on both sides of the border will jointly create paintings to express the common heritage of the people of both countries. With the objective of promoting greater people to people contact, both sides have also agreed to organize a joint Vintage Car Rally between Amritsar and Lahore, to coincide with the coming ‘India Show’.

8. Minister of Commerce Mr. Anand Sharma accepted the invitation extended by Minister of Commerce Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan to visit Pakistan in February 2014.

New Delhi, January 18, 2014

17. ***Choudhry Muhammad Shahbaz Babar:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of Pakistanis imprisoned In Indian Jails at present;*
- (b) *the number of Indians imprisoned in Pakistani Jails at present; and*
- (c) *the number of prisoners of India released by Pakistan during the last five years?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs: (a) As per the lists of prisoners exchanged on 1st July 2014, India has confirmed presence of 380 Pakistani prisoners (264 civil + 116 fishermen) in Indian jails. However, according to our claim, there are 486 Pakistani prisoners (350 civil + 136 fishermen) detained in Indian Jails.

(b) As per the lists of prisoners exchanged on 1st July 2014, there are 296 Indian Prisoners (47 civil + 237 fishermen + 12 youthful Offender Fishermen) detained in Pakistani jails.

(c) During the last five years (from January 2009 to todate), Pakistan has released 1952 Indian prisoners which includes 75 civil prisoners and 1877 fishermen. Year- wise breakdown is as follows:

Year	Civil	Fishermen	Total
2009	0	100	100
2010	20	454	474
2011	15	103	118
2012	26	680	706
2013	13	390	403
2014	01	150	151
Grand Total	75	1877	1952

18. ***Shaikh Rohale Asghar:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Government to improve the performance of Pakistani Embassies abroad and to solve the issues faced by Pakistanis overthere?

Minister for Foreign Affairs: The welfare of Pakistani diaspora is very high on the government's agenda. In his very first message to the Heads of Pakistan missions abroad after assuming charge, the Prime Minister emphasized that the missions should treat the Pakistani diaspora with utmost respect and improve the quality of services extended to them.

Realizing the potential of Pakistani diaspora abroad and their welfare was one of the main items on the agenda of the Envoys Conference held recently in Islamabad from 4-6 May 2014. During the course of his address to the Concluding Session of the Envoys Conference, the Prime Minister lauded the role of Pakistani diaspora "both as a bridge and a catalyst" in fostering enhanced economic collaboration between Pakistan and countries of their residence. He expressed appreciation for the efforts made by Pakistan's envoys abroad in improving the quality of the services extended to Pakistani expatriates. He noted that "more, however, needs to be done."

The Prime Minister directed the envoys to respond quickly and positively to the needs of the community. He underlined that our embassies and consulates had a duty to ensure that the community members were "treated with dignity and respect" irrespective of their social status, and to provide them the best available facilities. The Prime Minister added that the government would welcome innovative ideas for generating necessary funds for measures aimed at improving community services as well as adapting relevant rules and regulations for better utilization of funds already available.

The Prime Minister's instructions have been followed up through several messages addressed to the Heads of Pakistan missions abroad by the Foreign Secretary. This important subject is also part of the agenda with Heads of Pakistan Mission during visits abroad of the Advisor to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs and the Foreign Secretary.

Pakistan Missions abroad are, accordingly, in the process of upgrading the facilities for the Pakistani diaspora and taking measures to enhance the quality of the services extended to them.

A major initiative currently under implementation is the equipping Pakistan missions abroad with the capacity of issuing Machine Readable Passports. Another important issue under consideration is how to assist in the most effective way, those facing different kinds of legal proceedings on various charges.

These and other issues were thoroughly examined and discussed during the Envoys Conference referred to above.

Following is the gist of the measures taken by some of the Pakistan missions abroad with heavy concentration of Pakistani diaspora:

Ottawa:

1. Passports on urgent fees are issued within 24 hours and on normal fees 07 business days, whereas visas are normally issued next day or in case of emergency, the same day. Applications for NICOPs are processed through FSTS (Fast scanning and tracking system) daily. Attestation of documents is done on the same day basis.
2. Pakistanis living in far flung areas and provinces are provided with postal consular service, which saves time and money for the Pakistanis living in these areas.
3. New Digital telephone exchange with better features and with provision of emergency number is installed to facilitate the community even on weekends.
4. To provide better facilities to overseas Pakistanis, the Mission has renovated the consular hall, and installed sign boards for better understanding and guidance to the visitors. Parking facility for visitor's cars is also provided free of cost.

Washington, D.C.:

1. Pakistan's Embassy in Washington, D. C. provides same day visa service to the Pakistani community.

2. Same day passport service is provided on urgent fees basis.
3. Emergency Passport and Visa services are also provided during weekends/holiday/s for this purpose, mobile telephone numbers of Consular Officers have been put on Embassy's website.
4. Consular facilities are also being extended through postal services.
5. The option for paying fee alternatively has been made available for applicants.
6. Downloadable forms, guidelines for filling the forms and requirements for particular consular service are provided on the Embassy's website.
7. In addition to the above, a photocopier, vending machine for refreshments, adequate seating arrangements and television are provided in the Consular Hall.
8. A lift is being installed in the Chancery for handicapped applicants.

Riyadh:

The Pakistani Embassy in Riyadh and the Consulate General in Jeddah are providing services and assistance to thousands of Pakistanis on a daily basis. Details of the activities are placed below:

Consular Services:

The embassy in Riyadh process at least 600 Machine Readable Passports (MRP) applications every working day. Apart from this, 120 to 150 manual passport applications are processed every day. A similar volume of passport applications is processed at the Consulate General in Jeddah.

The NADRA sections of the Embassy and Consulate process about 140-170 applications for NICOP and allied services every day.

Labor and Welfare related services:

During the last financial year funds amounting to SR 209,000/-equivalent to Pak Rs. 4790280/- were received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Islamabad and payments were made to the concerned authorities of the host government to secure the release of Pakistani nationals, who could not be released earlier due to non-payment of fines. During the current financial year permission for payment of 4 cases has been approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad and an amount of Pak Rs. 3,777,488/- for securing release of prisoners.

Seven schools are imparting education to the children of Overseas Pakistanis residing in Central, Eastern and Northern provinces of the Kingdom.

Abu Dhabi:

The Embassy's consular Hall has been expanded and the number of data entry operators in NADRA and MRP Wings has been doubled to facilitate the community members. More than 350 cases are handled daily by MRP Wing whereas NADRA is able to cater for 100 applicants on daily basis.

The Community Welfare Wing provides consular assistance to all Pakistanis, particularly those detained in UAE jails. It maintains regular contact/liaison with UAE authorities *e.g.* Ministry of Labor, Interior etc.

to discuss the cases of Pakistanis pending with these departments and pursues early release of detained Pakistanis. Additionally, legal assistance is provided to those prisoners who do not have financial and other arrangements for hiring lawyers, under the prescribed government rules.

An agreement on Transfer of Sentenced Prisoners has also been signed between Pakistan and the UAE.

The improvement of the services extended to Pakistani diaspora abroad and the measures aimed at their welfare is an ongoing process that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and our Missions abroad are pursuing on a priority basis in consultations with other stakeholders.

19. ***Shaikh Rohale Asghar:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that radiations emit from those food items which have been imported from Japan;*
- (b) *if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?*

Transferred to National Food Security and Research Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

20. ***Mr. Muhammad Muzammil Qureshi:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Ministry to take full advantage of a regional trade market to boost up the economy of the country?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): Ministry of Commerce has taken various initiatives to enhance regional integration in trade. These initiatives have been materialized in the form of FTAs / PTAs and Transit Trade Arrangement:—

Trade with China

- Bilateral Free Trade Agreement – on Goods and Investment- signed on 24th November, 2006; operational since 1st July 2007.
- The scope of FTA enlarged by including Trade in Services- operational since 10th October 2009
- Since 2007-2008 Pakistan's Exports to China have gone up to 2.6 Billion USD from \$ 698 Million
- Negotiations on 2nd phase of Pakistan-China FTA are under process.

Trade with Afghanistan

- Afghanistan has been an important trading partner of Pakistan. Both countries are the Contracting Parties to the ECO Trade Agreement (ECOTA) besides Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. The volume of bilateral trade between the two countries has increased manifold during the last few years. The total bilateral trade between the two countries was US\$ 2353.8 million during 2012-2013. Pakistan's export stood at US\$ 2066 million during the same period.
- Pakistan is a gateway for the landlocked Afghanistan and to the world and particularly to Middle East and South East Asia. Similarly, Afghanistan is the direct link for Pakistan to the Central Asian Republics (CARs) and beyond.

- The Afghanistan-Pakistan Transit Trade Agreement (APTTA) was signed in October, 2010 and operationalized *w.e.f* 12th June, 2011. The Ministry of Commerce is keen to expand the ambit of the Agreement beyond Afghanistan to other Central Asian States by entering into negotiations with other interested states. Accordingly, a Trilateral Transit Trade Agreement among Pakistan, Afghanistan and Tajikistan has been shared with the Governments of Afghanistan and Tajikistan. While the latter has consented to sign the Agreement whereas response from Afghanistan is yet awaited.

Trade with India

With regard to SAFTA region especially India, the Commerce Ministers of Pakistan and India held a meeting on January 18, 2014 in New Delhi, India. During the meeting, the two sides, *inter-alia*, reached an understanding to normalize trade relations & provide Non-Discriminatory Market Access on reciprocal basis. Recent studies estimate the following benefits to accrue as a result of normalization of trade relations with India:—

- Pakistan's exports to India will increase substantially within three years wherein Textiles, Manufactured items, Agricultural products are expected to post potential export increase
- There would be considerable increase in import bill savings
- GDP growth of Pakistan would be higher
- There would be net increase in employment
- The number of poor will decrease as a result of enhanced economic activity
- There would be significant consumer welfare gains.
- Pakistan concluded a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Sri Lanka on August 1, 2002. Pakistan Sri Lanka FTA (PSFTA) is operational from June 12, 2005. Under the FTA, Sri Lanka and Pakistan have agreed to offer preferential market access by way of granting tariff concessions on reciprocal basis.

- Due to Pak-Sri Lanka FTA the exports from Pakistan to Sri Lanka increased from US\$ 200.605 million during the year 2006-07 to US\$ 327.141 million during the year 2012-13, whereas the exports from Sri Lanka to Pakistan increased from US\$ 63,384 million in 2006-07 to US\$ 76,569 million in 2012-13.
- Besides this, Pakistan is in process to commence negotiations to conclude FTAs/PTAs with Bangladesh and Nepal.

21. ***Mr. Muhammad Muzammil Qureshi:**

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- whether the Government of Pakistan provides financial and other assistance to those Pakistanis who die while working abroad; if so, the details thereof; and*
- whether the Pakistan's Missions abroad have formulated any mechanism to expedite settlement of legal claims for dues/compensations with the local authorities in case of death of Pakistani workers abroad; if so, the details thereof?*

Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (Pir Syed Sadruddin Shah Rashidi): (a) OPF had introduced financial aid scheme in 1980-81 to provide financial assistance to the destitute families of Overseas Pakistanis in the event of death or disability. So far OPF provided one time financial assistance to 6,813 families in all provinces of Pakistan including AJK for which an amount of Rs. 455.422 million has been disbursed.

In the current financial year (2013-14), 681 applications were received and all were paid financial assistance @ Rs.150,000/- per applicant on which Rs. 102.15 million were spent.

The Budget allocation has been enhanced from Rs.60 million to Rs. 120 million in the next financial year under the directions of the Federal Minister.

(b) In case of Death of Pakistani worker abroad, the Pakistani Missions take up death and dues cases with host government departments/private establishment and employers of host countries.

OPF receives the compensation/dues from employers through Pakistani missions and disburse the compensation/dues/insurance etc. through concerned District Coordination Officer amongst the legal heirs according to their shares. So far, 6465 families have received their compensation amounting to Rs. 2.72 Billion till May, 2014. Under process cases are 4,711.

22. ***Mr. Junaid Akbar:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that Pakistanis are facing a lot of difficulties in Malaysia due to non cooperation of Pakistan's Embassy overthere;*
- (b) *whether it is also a fact that a number of innocent Pakistanis are imprisoned overthere;*
- (c) *if the answers to part (a) and (b) above are in the affirmative, the details alongwith the steps being taken by the Government in this regard particularly for their release?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs: (a) The impression regarding non-cooperation of High Commission with Pakistani community is based on hearsay and incorrect information. The factual position is given below:

- As per statistics obtained from Malaysian Immigration authorities, total number of legally residing Pakistanis in Malaysia stands at 61,547 as per following detail:

General Workers	50606
Expatriates	2975
Students	4953
Others (Dependents)	3013
Total	61547

- There are around 20,000 illegal immigrants (including West Malaysia) bringing the total number of Pakistani nationals to 81,547 (approx). The number of Pakistani nationals coming on visit visa and seeking

job opportunities in Malaysia is on the rise. Majority of such visitors become illegal as they do not succeed in getting work visas.

- In order to help and assist our people, Community Welfare Wing is open from 9 am to 5 pm throughout the week. In addition to above, every Thursday, the Mission has fixed a community hour to listen to the grievances of Pakistani nationals and extend all possible assistance to resolve their problems.
- For illegal immigrants, as per laws of the land, the Malaysian authorities impose fine and sentence the people to jail from 3-6 months before allowing them to leave the country. The fines vary from RM 1,100 to RM 3,100 depending upon the length of their overstayed period. The prime concern of our overstayed Pakistanis is to avoid arrest and imprisonment. Majority of them are unable to pay for heavy fines one-way air tickets. After number of meetings with the Malaysian Immigration Department, the Mission was able to get substantial reduction in the rates of fines for repatriation of illegal persons. For overstayed people, the fine was got reduced to RM 500 regardless of the period of overstay.
- Till date, the Mission has repatriated 382 illegal Pakistanis without arrest with payment of concessional fines. Had the Mission not intervened, all such illegal people would have landed in jails as per local laws.
- In repatriation of Pakistanis, priority is being given to the sick (chronic) and disabled illegal immigrants, followed by aged and families.

(b) The impression that innocent Pakistanis are imprisoned in Malaysia is based on hearsay. The factual position is as follows:

- Currently there are 320 Pakistanis being detained in the Malaysian Prisons (including East Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak) out of which 102 Pakistani detainees are under remand while the remaining 218 have already been convicted. 207 Pakistani are being detained in Immigration Detention Centers throughout Malaysia. Most of these people face immigration related charges. Some of the Pakistanis face charges of serious crimes like murders, gang robbery, money laundering, human and drugs smuggling.

- Regular consular visits are undertaken by this Mission to extend consular assistance to detained Pakistanis in Prisons / Immigration Detention Centers. During the visits to Immigration Detention Centers, the detainees are provided telephonic facility to communicate with their relatives. For the prison detainees, their messages are recorded and subsequently conveyed to their families.
 - Most of the detainees in Immigration Detention Centers do not possess copies of CNIC / Passports which are essentially required for issuance of fresh travel documents. During visits, such detainees are personally interviewed and their antecedents are verified for issuance of Emergency passports.
 - All possible assistance is extended to the Pakistanis detained in Immigration Detention Centers / Prisons. Blank passport forms are delivered at all Immigration Detention Centers and travel documents are delivered free of cost.
 - Generally, the detainees express inability to bear the expenses for the purchase of one way air ticket. This Mission arranges air tickets through philanthropic community members besides utilizing PCW & E Fund. In year 2013, 47 such tickets were arranged.
 - The prospect of facilitation of medical team to provide medical facilities to the Pakistani detainees in prisons/Immigration Detention Center is also under process.
 - Around 236 Emergency passports have been issued to the Pakistani detainees pending deportation in the Detention Center during the last 3 months. The Emergency passports are issued after due completion of application forms and other formalities.
- (c) Not applicable.

23. ***Mr. Muhammad Afzal Khokhar**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that free of cost land has been provided for construction of the buildings of foreign embassies in Pakistan during the last five years; if so, the reasons therefor; and*

(b) *whether any other country provided such land for construction of Pakistan's embassies abroad so far; if so, details thereof?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs: (a) As per available record, the details of the land provided to the foreign embassies during the last five years, are as follows:—

S. No.	Embassy	Size of Plot	Reason
1.	Tajikistan (2011)	8750 sq. yards	On the basis of reciprocity, The Tajik government has allotted 8000 sq meter of land to Pakistan Mission in Dushanbe
2.	Saudi Arabia (2012)	7 acres	In view of the close and cordial relationship between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, seven acres of land was allotted to the Saudi Embassy, free of cost (with the approval of PM) for construction of a school and residential apartments for the staff of the Embassy.
3.	Kazakhstan an (2012)	6675 sq. yards	On the basis of reciprocity, The Kazak Government has agreed to allot land for the construction of Pakistan Embassy/Ambassador's Residence in Astana.

(b) In the last five years, Tajikistan has allotted land for construction of Pakistan Embassy in Dushanbe. Recently, the Government of Kazakhstan has agreed to provide land for the construction of the Embassy Residence in the new capital city of Astana.

In the past, lands have been provided on reciprocal basis for construction of Embassies by the Governments of Bangladesh, Brunei, China, Oman, Russia, Sri Lanka and Turkey.

24. ***Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak:**

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- (a) *the purposes of the establishment of Overseas Workers Welfare Fund;*
- (b) *the name of programs, welfare projects and services provided by the said Fund so far;*

- (c) *the year-wise total amount allocated for the said Fund during the last three years; and*
- (d) *the present status of implementation of the said welfare projects?*

Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (Pir Syed Sadrudin Shah Rashidi): (a), (b), (c) and (d) The Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development has not established Overseas Workers Welfare Fund. However, there are two organizations (i) Overseas Pakistanis Foundation which exclusively looks after welfare of overseas Pakistanis and (ii) Workers Welfare Fund which deals with welfare of industrial workers.

In view of the above, the Honorable MNA is requested to move a fresh question to indicate the exact organization for reply of the said question.

25. ***Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the present status of the national policy for Overseas Pakistanis; and*
- (b) *the steps taken by the Government for the implementation of the said policy?*

Transferred to Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

26. ***Ms. Munaza Hassan:**

Will the Minister for Textile Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the textile products have been exported to European Union after the GSP Plus Status was given to Pakistan; if so, the present status of textile growth therefor;*
- (b) *the difference between the estimated and actual textile growth at present and*

- (c) *whether it is also a fact that Pakistan has failed to take advantages of the said status during January to May, 2014; if so, the reasons thereof?*

Minister for Textile Industry (Mr. Abbas Khan Afridi): (a) The European Union is Pakistan's largest export partner. Pakistan's exports to EU have increased by 19.5% during the period from January to June 2014 as compared to export figures of corresponding period of 2013.

(b) It was estimated that after grant of GSP Plus Status, additional exports of \$1 billion will be made to EU in a calendar year. In the six months (Jan-June 2014), additional export of \$ 429 million has already been made to EU.

- (c) No, that is not a fact.

27. ***Ms. Asyia Naz Tanoli:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the increase registered in the export of Pakistani rice during the year 2013-14;*
- (b) *the month-wise quantity of rice in metric tons exported during the said period alongwith the value thereof;*
- (c) *the increase registered in the export of cotton yarn during the said period; and*
- (d) *the increase registered in foreign exchange of Pakistan as a result of the said export of yarn during the said period?*

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan):

- (a) **The Increase registered in the export of Pakistani rice during the year 2013-14;**

During 2013-14 (July- May) the exports of rice has increased from US\$ 1758.7 Million to US\$ 2035.9 Million which is 15.8%. The month-wise details during 2012-13 and 2013-14 are given at **Annex-A**

- (b) **The month-wise quantity of rice in metric tons exported during the said period along with the value thereof?**

During 2013-14 (July- May) exports of rice in quantity has decreased from 3,155,258 M.T to 2,910,514 M.T which is -7%. The month-wise details of rice export in quantity are given at **Annex-B**.

- (c) **The increased registered in the export of cotton yarn during the said period;**

No increase in the exports of cotton yarn (quantity) during the 2013-14 (July-May) was observed. Rather exports of Cotton yarn (quantity) has decreased from 675,887 M.T to 618.040 M.T which is -08.86%.

- (d) **The increase registered in foreign exchange of Pakistan as a result of the said export of yarn during the said period?**

No increase in the exports of cotton yarn (value) during the 2013-14 (July-May) was observed. Rather exports of Cotton yarn (value) has decreased from US\$ 2061.1 Million to 1856.8 Million which is -08.86%.

Annex-A

PAKISTAN' S EXPORT OF RICE DURING 2012-13 AND 2013-14

Value in Million US\$

Month	2012-13	2013-14
July	129.7	173.8
August	94.6	112.8
September	93.5	140.7
October	125.7	139.5
November	135.4	137.7
December	170.9	262.1
January	247.9	267.7
February	185.4	238.4
March	203.7	216.7
April	202.8	183.5
May	169.1	163.0
July-May	1758.7	2035.9

Source: PBS

Annex-B

PAKISTAN'S EXPORT OF RICE DURING 2012-13 AND 2013-14

Month	Quantity (M.T)	
	2012-13	2013-14
July	196,819	292,546
August	149,146	182,805
September	146,179	212,786
October	219,249	193,977
November	253,676	177,649
December	330,515	353,013
January	492,641	349,267
February	355,078	322,887
March	352,142	301,265
April	379,582	269,738
May	280,231	254,581
July-May	3,155,258	2,910,514

Source: PBS

28. ***Ms. Parveen Masood Bhatti:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the name of countries to which surgical instruments were exported during the last five years; and*
- (b) *the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom during the said period?*

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan):

- (a) **The name of countries to which surgical instruments were exported during the last five years; and**

Pakistan is exporting Surgical Instruments to almost 183 countries of the world. Five major import partners during 2012-13 are USA, France, Germany, United Kingdom, and Brazil. The names of countries to which surgical instruments were exported during the last five years are placed at **Annex-A?**

(b) **The amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom during the said period?**

The amount of foreign exchange earned from Surgical instruments during the last five years as follows:—

Value in thousands US\$

2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
253,554	229,201	260,598	303,940	303,537

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

29. ***Ms. Nighat Parveen Mir:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the impacts of the recent visit of the Prime Minister of Pakistan made to India on the Pak-India relationships?

Minister for Foreign Affairs: Improving relations with India is priority of the Government, and it seeks resumption of dialogue process aimed at resolution of all outstanding disputes including the core issue of Jammu and Kashmir. During first half of the year, the progress in bilateral ties remained slow due to general elections in India. Now that the new government has assumed power in India, Pakistan is looking forward to increased momentum of our efforts towards normalization.

2. On the invitation extended to heads of government of all SAARC countries to attend oath-taking ceremony of Mr. Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister visited India on 26-27 May 2014. The Prime Minister undertook this visit with a clear vision in mind – common agenda of development and economic revival, for which peace stability in the region is a prerequisite. The Prime Minister urged his Indian counterpart that together, they should rid the region of instability and insecurity, which had plagued us decades. Consequently, it was important for both countries to work together for peace, progress and prosperity.

3. The Prime Minister also urged that we had to strive to change confrontation into cooperation. He emphasized that engaging in accusations and

counter-accusations would be counter-productive. Government of Pakistan, therefore, stands ready to discuss all issues between our two countries, in a spirit of cooperation and sincerity. The Indian Prime Minister recognized the need for a dialogue process to address all bilateral issues that stand in the way of good relations between the two countries. Both Prime Ministers agreed on the need to move from conflict to cooperation, and resolve all outstanding issues as decided in the Lahore Declaration of 21 February 1999.

4. After the visit, the Prime Minister sent a letter of thanks to his Indian counterpart on 2 June, reaffirming his commitment to seek resolution of all outstanding issues between Pakistan and India. The Indian Prime Minister sent a response to this letter on 11 June, which has an encouraging and positive tone. In a departure from such high-level correspondence carried out with the former Prime Minister, Mr. Modi's letter does not make specific mention to terrorism, instead focusing on "atmosphere free from confrontation and violence".

5. The Foreign Secretary of Pakistan and India spoke on telephone on 23 July 2014 and agreed to meet in Islamabad on 25 August 2014. The objective of the meeting would be to resume the dialogue process and carry forward the peace process in keeping with the vision of establishing good neighbourly relations with India.

30. ***Ms. Nighat Parveen Mir:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to integrate the Pakistan's embassies abroad with the Ministry through Information Technology/Internet?

Minister for Foreign Affairs: Besides the existing normal fax and e-mail communication between the Ministry and the Missions abroad, a 'Secure E-mail System' has been introduced recently to ensure safe, efficient and speedy communication.

MOHAMMAD RIAZ,
Secretary.

ISLAMABAD:
The 3rd August, 2014.

(14th Session)

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

“UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND THEIR REPLIES”

For Monday, the 4th August, 2014

129. **Sheikh Salahuddin:**
(Deferred during 11th Session)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to improve the standard of services in Pakistan’s embassies abroad in order to provide maximum facilities to Overseas Pakistanis?

Minister for Foreign Affairs: The welfare of Pakistani diaspora is very high on the government’s agenda. In his very first message to the Heads of Pakistan missions abroad after assuming charge, the Prime Minister emphasized that the missions should treat the Pakistani diaspora with utmost respect and improve the quality of services extended to them.

Realizing the potential of Pakistani diaspora abroad and their welfare was one of the main items on the agenda of the Envoys Conference held recently in Islamabad from 4-6 May 2014. During the course of his address to the Concluding Session of the Envoys Conference the Prime Minister lauded the role of Pakistani diaspora “both as a bridge and a catalyst” in fostering enhanced economic collaboration, between Pakistan and countries of their residence. He expressed appreciation for the efforts made by Pakistan’s envoys abroad in improving the quality of the services extended to Pakistani expatriates. He noted that “more, however, needs to be done.”

The Prime Minister directed the envoys to respond quickly and positively to the needs of the community. He underlined that our embassies and consulates had a duty to ensure that the community members were “treated with dignity and respect” irrespective of their social status, and to provide them the best available facilities. The Prime Minister added that the government would welcome innovative ideas for generating necessary funds for measures aimed at improving community

services as well as adapting relevant rules and regulations for better utilization of funds already available.

The Prime Minister's instructions have been followed up through several messages addressed to the Heads of Pakistan missions abroad by the Foreign Secretary. This important subject is also part of the agenda with Heads of Pakistan Mission during visits abroad of the Advisor to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs and the Foreign Secretary.

Pakistan Missions abroad are, accordingly, in the process of upgrading the facilities for the Pakistani diaspora and taking measures to enhance the quality of the services extended to them.

A major initiative currently under implementation is the equipping at Pakistan missions abroad with the capacity of issuing of Machine Readable Passports. Another important issue under consideration is how to assist in the most effective way facing different kinds of legal proceedings on various charges.

These and other issues were thoroughly examined and discussed during the Envoys Conference referred to above.

Following is the gist of the measures taken by some of the Pakistan missions abroad with heavy concentration of Pakistani diaspora:—

Ottawa :

1. Passports on urgent fees are issued within 24 hours and on normal fees 07 business days, whereas visas are normally issued next day or in case of emergency, the same day. Applications for NICOPs are processed through FSTS (Fast scanning and tracking system) daily. Attestation of documents is done on the same day basis.
2. Pakistanis living in far flung areas and provinces are provided with postal consular service, which saves time and money for the Pakistanis living in these areas.
3. New Digital telephone exchange with better features and with provision of emergency number is installed to facilitate the community even on weekends.

4. To provide better facilities to overseas Pakistanis, the Mission has renovated the consular hall, and installed sign boards for better understanding and guidance to the visitors. Parking facility for visitor's cars is also provided free of cost.

Washington., D.C.:

1. Pakistan's Embassy in Washington, D. C. provides same day visa service to the Pakistani community.
2. Same day passport service is provided on urgent fees basis.
3. Emergency Passport and Visa services are also provided during weekends/holiday/s for this purpose, mobile telephone numbers of Consular Officers have been put on Embassy's website,
4. Consular facilities are also being extended through postal services.
5. The option for paying fee alternatively has been made available for applicants.
6. Downloadable forms, guidelines for filling the forms and requirements for particular consular service are provided on the Embassy's website.
7. in addition to the above, a photocopier, vending machine for refreshments, adequate seating arrangements and television are provided in the Consular Hall.
8. A lift is being installed in the Chancery for handicapped applicants.

Riyadh:

The Pakistani Embassy in Riyadh and the Consulate General in Jeddah are providing services and assistance to thousands of Pakistanis on a daily basis. Details of the activities are placed below:

Consular Services:

The embassy in Riyadh process at least 600 Machine Readable Passports (MRP) applications every working day. Apart from this, 120 to 150 manual passport

applications are processed every day. A similar volume of passport applications is processed at the Consulate General in Jeddah.

The NADRA sections of the Embassy and Consulate process about 140-170 applications for NICOP and allied services every day.

Labor and Welfare related services:

During the last financial year funds amounting to SR 209,000/- equivalent to Pak Rs. 4790280/- were received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad and payments were made to the concerned authorities of the host government to secure the release of Pakistani nationals, who could not be released earlier due to non-payment of fines. During the current financial year permission for payment of 4 cases has been approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad and an amount of Pak Rs. 3,777,488/- for securing release of prisoners.

Seven schools are imparting education to the children of Overseas Pakistanis residing in Central, Eastern and Northern provinces of the Kingdom.

Abu Dhabi:

The Embassy's consular Hall has been expanded and the number of data entry operators in NADRA and MRP Wings has been doubled to facilitate the community members. More than 350 cases are handled daily by MRP Wing whereas NADRA is able to cater for 100 applicants on daily basis.

The Community Welfare Wing provides consular assistance to all Pakistanis, particularly those detained in UAE jails. It maintains regular contact/liaison with UAE authorities *e.g.* Ministry of Labor, Interior etc. to discuss the cases of Pakistanis pending with these departments and pursues early release of detained Pakistanis. Additionally, legal assistance is provided to those prisoners who do not have financial and other arrangements for hiring lawyers, under the prescribed government rules.

An agreement on Transfer of Sentenced Prisoners has also been signed between Pakistan and the UAE.

The improvement of the services extended to Pakistani diaspora abroad and the measures aimed at their welfare is an ongoing process that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and our Missions abroad are pursuing on a priority basis in consultations with other stakeholders.

136. **Mian Muhammad Farooq:**
(Deferred during 11th Session)

Will the Minister for Textile Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total number of cases of corruption reported in the Ministry and its attached departments during the last five years alongwith the details thereof; and*
- (b) *whether action has been taken by the Ministry against each culprit thereof; if not, the reasons thereof?*

Minister for Textile Industry (Mr. Abbas Khan Afridi): (a), (b)
No case of corruption has been reported in the Ministry of Textile Industry and its attached departments during the last 05 years.

151. **Ms. Saman Sultana Jaffri:**
(Deferred during 11th Session)

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human resources Development be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of legislation made by the Government to control/ eliminate child labour in the country; and*
- (b) *the steps taken by the Government for implementation thereupon?*

Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (Pir Syed Sadaruddin Shah Rashidi): (a) Employment of Children Act, 1991, Employment of Children Rules, 1995, Factories Act, 1934 and Shops and Establishments Ordinance, 1969 prohibit child labour in the country. The subject of Labour has been devolved to provinces post 18th Constitution Amendment. Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development is actively supporting Provincial labor departments in modernizing, and developing labor laws in accordance with Pakistan's needs and international commitments. Provinces are in the process to develop new laws in this regard.

- (b) PUNJAB:

- (a) Labour Inspections

- Inspections made: 598,565 (Jan 2010- Mar 2014)

- Prosecutions: 6339
- Fines Imposed: Rs. 12,02,000/
- (b) Three ADP schemes worth Rs.500/- million have been introduced to combat child / bonded labour;
 - i. Elimination of Bonded Labour in Brick Kilns-in Lahore & Kasur.
 - ii. Combating worst forms of Child Labour in 4 districts of the Punjab.
 - iii. Elimination of Bonded Labour in 4 Districts of the Punjab.

KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA:

- (a) Labour Inspections
 - Inspections made: 2848 (2011- 2014)
 - Prosecutions: 396
 - Fines Imposed: Rs. 40,100/
- (b) Rs, 14 million, ADP scheme (2013-2014) has been launched to combat child/ bonded labour.

SINDH:

- (a) Labour Inspections
 - Cases Lodged: 81
 - Fines Imposed: Rs. 33,350/-

Note:- Reply from Balochistan is awaited.

178. Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak:
(Deferred during 11th Session)

Will the Minister for Textile Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of tax exemptions, subsidy on interest, tariff protection, land on concessional rates or any other concessions given to textile sector of the country during the last three years;*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that the market share of the country is declining year by year resulting increase in the share of its competitors; if so, the steps taken by the Government to address the said issue; and*

- (c) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to improve the value added export products instead of raw material exports of textile sector?*

Minister for Textile Industry (Mr. Abbas Khan Afridi): (a) The Textiles Policy 2009-14 was approved by the Cabinet in August 2009. The Textiles Policy envisages enhancement of export performance of textile industry to the target of \$25 billion over the period of five years. This is to be achieved through a set of immediate short term support measures and medium & long-term initiatives aimed at infrastructure & skills development.

The Ministry of Textile Industry has issued the following Orders in addition to the SRO issued by the Federal Board of Revenue for duty free import of textiles machinery:—

1. Drawback of Local Taxes and Levies (DLTL) Order, 2009
2. Export Finance Mark-up Rate Facility (EFS) Order, 2009
3. Markup Rate Support for Textile Sector Order, 2009
4. Reimbursement of EOBI Contribution Order, 2009

Under these textiles policy 2009-14 initiatives Rs. 28 billion have been disbursed by the Government till date.

- (b) The world data is available till 2012 and the share of Pakistan therein, is given as under.

\$ in Millions			
Year	World	Pakistan	Share of Pakistan
2008	613,511	11,092	1.81%
2009	527,471	9,867	1.87%
2010	605,313	11,778	1.95%
2011	711,474	13,632	1.92%
2012	708,354	12,919	1.82%

Source: World Trade Organization

As evident from the stats above, the share of Pakistan in the international market has been steady over the past few years. During current financial year July-March 2013-14 exports have been increased by 8% compared to same period in last year. Ministry of Textile Industry is in the process of formulating Textile Policy 2014-2019 to further increase our exp.

(c) Yes. The Ministry of Textile Industry is in the process of formulating 'Textile Policy 2014-2019', which will focus on value addition of the products of Pakistan's textile sector.

1. **Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb:**

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that welfare projects are being launched in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) by the Workers Welfare Fund; if so, the prescribed criteria thereof?

Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (Pir Syed Sadruddin Shah Rashidi): (a) No welfare project is being launched in FATA by the Workers Welfare Fund, Islamabad.

2. **Ms. Aisha Syed:**

Will the Minister for States and Frontier Regions be pleased to state the prescribed criteria to monitor the utilization of funds being provided to Political Agents and Assistant Political Agents in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA)?

Minister for States and Frontier Regions [Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Quadir Baloch]: (i) a) Only Non Development funds are provided directly to the Political Agents and Assistant Political Agents. These funds when passed by the Parliament and authenticated by the Prime Minister in the shape of Grant released on quarterly basis to the Principal Accounting officer (FATA) by the Finance Division. Thereafter, these funds are placed by the Principal Accounting Officer at the disposal of Political Agents/Assistant Political Agents for incurring expenditures on the specified object heads after completing all the prescribed codal formalities.

(b) As far as development funds are concerned, these are released to Executing Agencies/ Line Departments/ Directorates as per allocation for approved schemes appearing in the FATA Annual Development Plan (ADP).

(ii) The funds are drawn from the Treasury through Agency Accounts Officers who subject these expenditures to rigorous pre-audit and simultaneously maintain their accounts.

(iii) The Auditor General of Pakistan conducts annual audit of these accounts and audit report is submitted to the Public Accounts Committee of National Assembly.

3. **Ms. Aisha Syed:**

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the Overseas Pakistanis Foundation (OPF) School at Chakdara, Lower Dir was closed in November, 2004; if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (b) *the number of teachers of the said School who were compulsorily retired alongwith the number of teachers who were transferred to other Schools?*

Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (Pir Syed Sadruddin Shah Rashidi): (a) OPF Public School, Chakdara was established in 1990 in the old Deputy Commissioner house, which was provided by the then District Administration free of rent.

It is fact that the OPF Public School, Chakdara, Lower Dir was closed in June, 2004. The premises of OPF Public School, Chakdara was forcibly got vacated on 25-11-2002 by the District Management to shift the office of Board of Intermediate & Secondary Education, Swat.

(b) The services of 21 teaching / non-teaching staff were laid off and no teacher was transferred to any other school. The status of employment of all employees was permanent and they were paid final dues as per law.

4. **Dr. Nisar Ahmad Jatt:**

Will the Minister for Textile Industry be pleased to refer to Starred Question No. 102 replied on 28-02-2014 and to state:

- (a) *the month wise details of research and advisory reports prepared, approved and disseminated by the Research Development and Advisory (RD&A) Cell since its establishment;*
- (b) *the impacts of said reports on the Textile Industry;*
- (c) *the names of officers working in the said Cell alongwith the justification for continuation of their contracts of appointments; and*
- (d) *the reasons for not making regular appointments through the Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC) in the said Cell?*

Minister for Textile Industry (Mr. Abbas Khan Afridi): (a) On a proposal submitted by the Ministry, the Prime Minister of Pakistan (*vide* PM Secretariat U.O. No. 2 (34) DS (E-I-II)/05, date 15-02-2006, incumbent officers of RDA Cell were hired in March and April 2007) approved establishment of the Research, Development and Advisory Cell (RDA Cell) in Ministry of Textile Industry to provide support in undertaking research and analyses of the whole textiles sector and to propose policy measures for growth of the sector. The Research Development and Advisory (RDA) Cell is responsible for following tasks:—

- Formulation of Textile Policy, encompassing promotion of Pakistani's textile industry at the global level, exploration opportunities for access to new markets through joint ventures, FTAs / PTAs and other institutional arrangements.
- The RDA Cell will provide policy advice to the Ministry, and monitor dissemination and application of policy parameters across the entire institutional structure of the Ministry, its constituent units, as well as nodal points in the textile industry.
- Study of market dynamics in major markets and evaluating prospects for increase in market share of Pakistani Textile products specifically within the WTO framework as well as other institutional arrangements at the bilateral, regional and international levels.

- Benchmarking with close competitors.
- Evaluating product costs, financial analysis of different sub-sectors.
- Evaluating the impact of fiscal and macroeconomic policies on the textile sector.
- Managing technology transfer, product development, productivity analysis and skill development.
- Data compilation, analysis of trends & publication of monthly, quarterly and special reports.
- Monitoring and appraisal of the implementation of various projects and activities under Ministry of Textile Industry.
- Monitoring of progress on Goals & Targets. set by the Prime Minister for the Ministry and ensuring timely achievement thereof.
- Put up proposals with regard to textile machinery up-gradation, human skill development, setting up textile related laboratories and testing system for funding through international organizations/PSDP/EDF.
- Studying and analyzing the incentives given by the competing companies in the region to their textile industries and submitting proposals to the Ministry of Textile Industry in light of such analysis.
- Complete Job Description on the RDA Cell is placed as Annexure-I.

The first task RDA Cell carried out was formulation of first ever Textiles Policy of the country. A prerequisite for drafting the Policy was compilation and analyses of data, factors influencing the global textiles trade and identification of domestic resources, strengths and weaknesses. A Policy framework could only be developed by placing all these variables in their true perspective. Accordingly the RDA Cell undertook detailed study of the global scenario, including the developments in the post-quota environment, the incentives being provided by our competitors and the pull factors affecting our exports due to availability of preferential market access etc along with the domestic constraints including the regulatory framework, taxes and levies, and role of various federal, provincial and local government departments, analysis of infrastructure facilities and initiatives, available skills and education infrastructure and technological gap assessment.

The announcement of the first-ever Textile Policy of the country on 12-08-2009 was the most significant achievement of not only the RDA Cell but also the Ministry since its establishment.

The Policy covered entire textiles value chain such as cotton, manmade fibers, filaments, ginning, spinning, weaving, knitting, processing, stitching, ICT and fashions. The Cabinet approved a financing plan of Rs. 188 billion for the Textiles Policy.

Further, 40 projects were identified for the implementation of Textiles Policy out of which concepts of many were accepted for Textiles Policy 2009-14. Further, for entire support schemes the cost analyses were prepared.

During this period not only Textiles Policy was formulated but following reports were also prepared by the RDA Cell, which were not only published but also placed on the website. The said reports are placed as Annexure-II.

The RDA Cell developed data base for the registration of textile units with the Ministry of Textile Industry. During first two and half years of the Textiles Policy period approximately 1600 textile units were registered these units registration were renewed in 2012. This exercise was taken to obtain data of human resource, productivity level, machinery details, production and exports mix on 8-digit HS codes. raw material utilized, availability of ETP, testing laboratories, international certifications etc. at the moment RDACELL has registered 6000 nationwide online members.

The RDA Cell formulated all Notification Orders including criteria for the implementation of Textiles Policy which includes.

- Machinery for the exemption of custom duty,
- Drawback of Local Taxes and Levies Order 2009
- EFS Support Order, 2009
- Reimbursement of EOBI and SS Order, 2009
- Mark up Support Order 2009
- Technology Up-gradation Fund Support Order 2010, including the TUF Document identifying the machinery and conditions for the eligibility of the claims.

It is pertinent to mention that all the schemes except EOBI and SS are administered by the State Bank of Pakistan while EOBI and SS Scheme is operated by the Textile Commissioner Organization. The RDA Cell does not operate any scheme.

During this period the world faced the crisis of cotton which was created due to shortage of cotton in China and cotton prices were increased thrice. The RDA Cell monitored the situation and on its recommendation various measures were taken such as registration of cotton by the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan, placing cotton yarn at zero duty, quota on yarn exports and regulatory duty on yarn. The case was filed by the spinning industry, the RDA Cell presented the case of the Ministry in Lahore High Court and the Court gave the decision in favor of Ministry of Textile Industry.

The RDA Cell also recommended for the rationalization of PTA-PSF and the rationalization of PTA-PSF value saved Rs. 3 to 4 billion per year spent by the Government on monetization of PTA-PSF value chain and this sub-sector was brought in normal tariff regime.

RDA Cell analyzed the Planning Commission study on tariff rationalization. The Planning Commission study was not approved due to objection of RDA Cell as the tariff cut would have adverse effect on textiles sector.

The RDA Cell also recommended for the revision of tariff description for the cotton, yarn and fabric, Which were accepted by the Federal Board of Revenue.

The RDA Cell prepared offer and request lists for various FTA/PTAs including, China, Malaysia, Indonesia, Turkey etc which were carried out by analyzing the import and export mix of the countries. agreements with other countries and keeping in view the domestic industry's strength and weaknesses. Further, on the recommendation of RDA Cell, the Ministry of Commerce is now reviewing Phase-I of the Pakistan China FTA under Article-VIII. This whole exercise facilitated to reach to this decision which will facilitate protection of the domestic industry against competition from Chinese manufacturing industry which is largest in textiles in world. Further, the RDA Cell provided inputs on numerous JMCs and BITs etc including recommendations for TIFA. Such studies highlight inherent potential gains and potential loss through the FTA/PTA finalization and provide reasoning for recommendations.

Further, the Ministry carried out complete analyses of normalization of trade including, Indian subsidies, tariff regime, negative lists, positive lists, NLDCs

list, LDCs lists, sensitive lists, para tariffs. NTBs, TBTs, trade policy reviews, public sector, trade defense mechanisms etc.. The recommendations of RDA Cell were accepted by the Cabinet and normalization of trade was linked to level playing field with India.

The RDA Cell prepared PC-1 for training of 500,000 unskilled workforce, the project was not approved due to limited PSDP budget of this Ministry, however, the RDA Cell has revised the PC-1 and now the number of trainees are reduced to 1,20,000.

The RDA Cell developed PC-1 for first ever Ginning Institute and Model Cotton Trading House, however, only ginning institute was approved by the EDF.

Project of EDF funded institutes was approved by the PSDP and institutes were provided support for their upgradation.

Another significant achievement of RDA Cell is its initiative to bring about necessary legislation for the textile industry. In this regards, the draft of Textile Industry (Development, Promotion and Standards) Act was developed and circulated to Ministries concerned. On the objection of Law Division, the Draft Act was not place before the Cabinet. However, the RDA Cell prepared a new draft Act to provide legislative powers to the Ministry. The proposed law envisages ensuring the compliance of various subsectors of the textile industry to a set of uniform standards and collection of data.

RDA Cell has developed new product groups and segregated products on their fiber base, the fiber based products has also been calculated for various other competitors countries. Such calculations provide information on international trends on fiber mix and such information is also disseminated to the industry to take steps for future. An example is that cotton is 80% of our product mix while the world has shifted to more than 70% for manmade fiber, On the basis of the study the RDA Cell has recommended development of other sectors such as wool and silk, while to promote manmade fibers the RDA Cell is pursuing drawback on deemed import basis to PSF value chain.

Comprehensive proposals were developed for GSP+ regulation 978/2012 and information was disseminated to the stake holders.

The RDA Cell carried out exercise of custom duty and sales tax regime including, SRO 621, 565, 575, 727, 231, 283, 1125 etc and provided recommendations to the Ministry for budget proposals.

The RDA Cell has recently developed the Textiles Package for period 2014-19 and it is placed for the approval in Budget 2014-15.

(b) The RDA Cell is providing inputs on entire Policy issues, such steps have facilitated this Ministry in taking measures to offset the domestic and international issues. Such reports are necessary to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the textile value chain, especially in relation incentives given our regional competitors to textile exporters. The support schemes of Textiles Policy encouraged the textile sector to sustain the energy crisis since 2007 and international recessions of 2008-09. Exports increased from \$ 9.6 billion to \$ 13 billion and during 2010-11 exports touched \$ 14 billion. Further, during the said period investment in textiles sector was about \$ 2 billion. Further, the new Textiles Policy 2014-19 package is also towards value addition and target is \$ 26 billion from current \$ 13 billion.

(c) The RDA Cell is manned with only three officers namely, Mr. Kanwar M. Usman (MP-II), Syed Abbas Mehdi (MP-III) and Mr. Adil Majeed (MP-III) recruited from private sector on basis of their previous achievements and records after following due procedure. The RDA Cell has been recommended for extension four times by the Committee Constituted (Secretary Finance Chairman, Secretary, Establishment Division and Secretary, Ministry of Textile Industry) for the extension of MP Officers and approved by the Prime Ministers. The contract is extended as Ministry of Textile Industry is an economic Ministry and is looking after the affairs of largest manufacturing sector in Pakistan having the largest supply chain than any other sector. Other Ministries have huge departments such as TDAP, SMEDA, EDB etc to look after the policy issues of their sectors, while the entire policy decisions are carried out on the analyses and recommendations by this RDA Cell.

(d) The executive posts in this Cell are only in MP scales and hence hiring cannot be made through FPSC.

5. **Dr. Nisar Ahmad Jatt:**

Will the Minister for Textile Industry be pleased to refer to Starred Question No.43 replied on 28-02-2014 and to state:

- (a) *the number of meetings of the Textile Policy Implementation Committee held since the approval of Textile Policy 2009 till date alongwith the decisions made during each meeting thereof;*

- (b) *the names of Wings and Heads of Departments responsible for implementation of the said Textile Policy;*
- (c) *the names of officers posted in the Ministry on deputation basis alongwith the details of their BPS, qualification, parent departments and date of Joining; and*
- (d) *the steps taken by the Ministry to fill up said posts on regular basis?*

Minister for Textile Industry (Mr. Abbas Khan Afridi): (a) The Cabinet, in its meeting held on 12th August, 2009, constituted a Cabinet Committee comprising Minister of Finance, Minister for Textile Industry, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Food and Agriculture, Minister for Industries and Production and Minister for Investment to monitor the implementation of Textiles Policy and related matter. However, because of a global shortage in availability of cotton, largely due to a shortfall in Chinese crop, which is the biggest producer and consumer of cotton in the world, the foreign demand for Pakistan's cotton yarn had risen exceptionally so the meetings of the Cabinet Committee took place to resolve this issue.

- The first meeting of the Cabinet Committee was held on November, 20th, 2009. The decision of the Cabinet Committee was that following the review of the present cotton and yarn situation and keeping in view the export trends and local availability, the Cabinet Committee decided that all exports of yarn shall be registered with the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan.
- 2nd meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Textiles was held on December 23rd, 2009. The Committee approved followings:—
 - The custom duty of 5% on cotton yarn shall be removed to allow competitive imports of yarn.
 - Exports of yarn will be allowed only through LC and, advance cash and after registration with TDAP.
 - Exports of yarn will be closely monitored and if they cross the level of 50 million Kg per month, more restrictive measures will be adopted.

- Third meeting of the Committee was held on 8th January, 2010:
 - Decision “export of cotton yarn would be capped at monthly volume of 50 million Kg per month during the current crop season and export contracts will be registered by the TDAP on first come, first served basis. This measure would stand terminated on 30th June, 2010.
- 4th meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Textiles was held on 12th May, 2010:—
 - Decision “A regulatory duty of 15% will be imposed on export of all types of yarn with immediate effect. The quota restrictions on exports of yarn imposed will be withdrawn.
- 5th meeting of the Committee was held on 23rd July, 2010 and it was approved to let the duty regime on yarn exports expire on 26th July, 2010.
- No further meetings of Cabinet Committee were held.

(b) The Finance Division allocates funds for the Textiles Policy initiatives and places funds in State Bank of Pakistan. The Ministry of Textile Industry after analyzing the liabilities under various schemes issue policy guidelines to SBP to segregate the funds amongst the various support schemes accounts. The funds are thereby disbursed by the State Bank of Pakistan after following eligibility criteria mentioned in Notification Orders. The Secretary, Ministry of Textile Industry is responsible for the implementation of Textiles Policy.

(c) No officer has been posted on deputation basis in Ministry of Textile Industry.

(d) No post is lying vacant in the Ministry of Textile Industry.

6. **Dr. Mahreen Razaque Bhutto:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the total number of cases of violence occurred on the Line of Control since July, 2013?

Minister for Foreign Affairs: The Summary of cease fire violations from the Indian side on the Line of Control (LoC) from July 2013 to 29th May 2014 is as below:

(a) **Total number of Cease Fire Violations:** 374

(b) **Total number of Casualties:**

Military:

Killed 05

Injured 18

Civilian:

Killed 05

Injured 57

2. The month-wise break up of these violations on the Line of Control (LoC) is as below:

Casualties on the Pakistan side					
Month	No, of Cease Fire Violations	Military		Civilian	
		Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured
July 2013	23	01	01	00	00
August 2013	83	04	11	03	28
September 2013	94	00	00	00	05
October 2013	91	00	06	02	23
November 2013	32	00	00	00	01
December 2013	07	00	00	00	00
January 2014	07	00	00	00	00
February 2014	11	00	00	00	00
March 2014	05	00	00	00	00
April 2014	07	00	00	00	00
May 2014	14	00	00	00	00

3. The above information is based upon past reports on cease fire violations regularly submitted to this Ministry by MO Directorate.

7. **Sahibzada Muhammad Yaqub:**

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state the number of skilled and unskilled manpower sent to Korea, Qatar and Saudi Arabia during the last five years alongwith details of vacancies and required qualification thereof?

Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (Pir Syed Sadrudin Shah Rashidi): The number of skilled and un-skilled manpower sent to Korea, Qatar and Saudi Arabia during the last five years *i.e.* 2009-2013, is as under:—

S. No	County	Skilled	Un-Skilled	Total
01	Korea	29	5,062	5,091
02	Qatar	14,886	12,786	27,672
03	Saudi Arabia	632,051	613,575	1,245,626
Total		646,966	631,423	1,278,389

It is, however, added that the criteria of qualification for a specific vacancy is set by the host country's employers according to their requirement, which may vary from vacancy to vacancy.

8. **Sahibzada Muhammad Yaqub:**

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total number of persons appointed in the Ministry and its attached departments during the last five years;*
- (b) *whether provincial quota was observed for such recruitments; and*
- (c) *the details of posts lying vacant in the said Ministry at present?*

Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (Pir Syed Sadruddin Shah Rashidi): (a) The total number of persons appointed in the ministry and its attached departments during the last five years is as follows:—

S. No	Name	No. of persons appointed during the last five years
1.	Ministry of OP& HRD	18
2.	Bureau of emigration and overseas Employment (BE&OE)	152
3.	National Industrial Relations Commission(NIRC)	10

(b) Yes.

(c) The details of posts lying vacant in the Ministry are as follows

S. No	Name	No. of Vacant posts	Details
1.	Ministry of OP& HRD	63	Annex -A
2.	Bureau of emigration and overseas Employment (BE&OE)	54	Annex-B
3.	National Industrial Relations Commission(NIRC)	15	Annex-C

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

9. **Shaikh Rohale Asghar:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) *the names and addresses of Pakistanis who are imprisoned in Bagram Jail, Afghanistan at present; and*

(b) *the details of allegations leveled against said prisoners?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs: (a) According to the information received from the US Embassy in Islamabad, currently there are 24 Pakistani nationals detained at the Bagram detention centre (list attached). Determination of their national status is currently under process by the relevant departments / agencies.

(b) They were detained on charges of suspected involvement in terrorist activities and association with terrorist outfits.

List of Remaining Pakistani Detainees at Bagram

1. Mr. Anal Khan
2. Mr. Fazel Khan/Fazel Karim
3. Mr. Abdul Halim Saifullah
4. Mr. Mohammad Eqbal
5. Mr. Saiful Rahman
6. Mr. Jaber Zaher
7. Mr. Abdullah (Abdul Nabi)
8. Mr. Imran ul Hassan
9. Mr. Sardar Mohammad
10. Mr. Imran Rassoul
11. Mr. Faitullah.
12. Mr. Mumtaz Khan/Imtiaz Khan
13. Mr. Mohammad Eqbal
14. Mr. Mohammad Amin
15. Mr: Amanatullah/Ahmad Dilshad
16. Mr. Shoaib Khan
17. Mr. Mohammad Sulaiman
18. Mr. Latifullah
19. Mr. Hafizulla.h
20. Mr. Abdullah
21. Mr. Nur Islam
22. Mr. Aziz Arafat
23. Mr. Mohammad Akram
24. Mr. Saifullah

10. **Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak:**

Will the Minister for States and Frontier Regions be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of medical services provided to the patients of various diseases in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) during the year 2013-14;*
- (b) *the names of medical/health units established therein during the said period; and*
- (c) *the details of funds allocated therefor during the said period?*

Minister for States and Frontier Regions [Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch]: The requisite Reply in respect of Ministry of State and Frontier Regions from FATA Secretariat:

- (a) The, detail” of medical services provided it, various hospitals and health facilities to the patients of FATA up to April 2014 (detail is of annexure-A).
- (b) Total 13 Nos of Medical/health unit established during thc said period including typ^t ‘D’ hospital and 12 CHCs. (Annexure-B.)
- (c) Total Rs. 123.820 million have been allocated for the above 13 units during the said period. (detail is at annexure-B).

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

11. **Sheikh Salahuddin:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the Embassy of Pakistan at Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) issued two NOCs on same day for deportation of dead bodies to Pakistan and for burial thereof in Saudi Arabia during the month of August, 2012;*
- (b) *if so, whether any power of attorney/statement was submitted by the persons to whom the said NOCs were issued;*

- (c) *the names of persons to whom the said NOCs were issued alongwith the details of those NOCs and statements submitted in this regard; and*
- (d) *whether it is also a fact that a complaint has also been forwarded to the said Embassy by the parents of deceased persons for inquiry regarding issuance of said NOCs and cause of deaths and compensation therefor; if so, the findings thereof alongwith action taken in this regard so far?*

Reply not received.

12. **Sheikh Salahuddin:**

Will the Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination be pleased to state the criteria adopted for selection of top officials by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) during the last one year alongwith the Justifications thereof?

Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination (Mr. Riaz Hussain Pirzada): The services of Mr. Amjad Hussain, Director Media Coordination and implementation was acquired on deputation in February 2014 from Government of Punjab which is not a new appointment. The post was vacant.

There have been no further new hirings on top position in PCB in the last one year.

13. **Mr. Siraj Muhammad Khan:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the used cooking oil is being imported by the commercial importers since long;*
- (b) *whether it is also a fact that the said import is causing loss/danger to public health and the national exchequer;*
- (c) *if the answers to part (a) and (b) above are in the affirmative, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?*

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): (a) According to Sr. No.13, Appendix-A of Import Policy Order, 2013 (Annex-I), the import of used vegetables ghee and cooking oil is banned; therefore no import of this item is taking place in the country.

(b) No import of used cooking oil is taking place as this is a banned item as stated above, therefore reply to this part of question is in negative.

(c) In the light of answers given above for parts (a) and (b) of question, no comments are required on this part of the question.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

14. **Mr. Siraj Muhammad Khan:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) *whether it is a fact that 2000 Houbara Bustards were hunted in January, 2014;*

(b) *whether it is also a fact that the permission was granted for 100 birds in 10 days therefor; and*

(c) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to impose ban on the hunting of said birds; if so, when it will be implemented?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs: (a) No such incident was officially reported to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(b) Yes, as per the Code of Conduct, the hunting was permitted for a maximum period of ten (10) days with a bag limit of hundred (100) birds.

(c) The Government plans to go for a limited moratorium on hunting for the season 2014-15. However, a final decision has not yet been taken.

15. **Mr. Sher Akbar Khan:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total number of complaints registered in the Ministry by the public during the year 2013-14; and*
- (b) *the steps taken and criteria adopted by the Government for speedy redressal of those complaints?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs: (a) As per available record 172 complaints were received in Overseas Pakistanis (OP) section in the past two years regarding Pakistani prisoners abroad and missing Pakistani in different countries.

(b) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs takes these complaints very seriously and responds to them invariably. The Ministry consults closely with relevant Missions abroad and the concerned departments and agencies for the expeditious redressal of these complaints. Necessary steps taken by the Ministry through Pakistan Missions abroad include:

- i. Maintaining contacts with the concerned families with a view to facilitating redressal of their genuine problems.
- ii. Maintaining contacts with related NGOS.
- iii. Maintaining and regularly updating a database on Pakistani nationals in distress/detained/prisons abroad.
- iv. Maintaining a database on those released / repatriated by Pakistan Missions.

16. **Mr. Sher Akbar Khan:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the names, parentage, designations, educational qualifications and domicile of the persons appointed in BPS-1 to 20 on regular, contract and daily wages basis in the Ministry during the period from 1st January, 2008 to 1st January, 2013 alongwith the details of present job status of each employee thereof?

Minister for Foreign Affairs: Reply is attached as (Annex-A).

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

17. **Sahibzada Tariq Ullah**

Will the Minister for Textile Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total number of complaints registered in the Ministry by the public during the year 2013-14; and*
- (b) *the steps taken and criteria adopted by the Government for speedy redressal of those complaints?*

Minister for Textile Industry (Mr. Abbas Khan Afridi): (a), (b) No complaint has been registered in the Ministry of Textile Industry by the public during the Year 2013-14

18. **Sahibzada Tariq Ullah:**

Will the Minister for Textile Industry be pleased to state the names, parentage, designations, educational qualifications and domicile of the persons appointed in BPS 1 to 20 on regular, contract and daily wages basis in the Ministry during the period from 1st January, 2008 to 1st January, 2013 alongwith the details of present job status of each employee thereof?

Minister for Textile Industry (Mr. Abbas Khan Afridi): During 1st January 2008 to 1st January 2013 one official was appointed as Assistant (BS-14) on regular basis, particulars of whom are given as under:—

1	Name	Mr. Sultan Mehmood
2	Father's Name	Haji Ghulam Jan
3	Designation	Assistant (BPS-14)
4	Educational Qualification	Master in Biochemistry
5	Domicile	Balochistan
6	Appointment	Direct (through advertisement)
7	Date of Appointment	05-07-2012
8	Remarks	Resigned on 20-11-2013

19. **Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak:**

Will the Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) *the steps being taken by the Government for promotion of tourism in the country;*
- (b) *the location-wise hotels under the administrative control of the Ministry at present;*
- (c) *the year-wise Income earned through tourism and expenditure incurred thereupon during the last five years till date; and*
- (d) *the total amount allocated for promotion of tourism during the year 2014-15?*

Transferred to Cabinet Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

20. **Ms. Munaza Hassan:**

Will the Minister for States and Frontier Regions be pleased to state the total amount allocated for development programs/betterment of educational standards and health of women in FATA during the year 2013-14 and 2014-15 alongwith the head-wise utilization thereof?

Reply not received.

21. **Ms. Nighat Parveen Mir:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the total amount reimbursed to each Pakistani Ambassador posted abroad under the head of medical bills during the year 2013-14?

Reply not received.

22. **Ms. Nighat Parveen Mir:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the country-wise total number of Pakistanis deported from abroad since January, 2010 alongwith the details and reasons thereof?

Transferred to Interior Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

23. **Ms. Sajida Begum:**

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names and addresses of teachers, doctors, engineers, professors, nurses, skilled and unskilled persons who have been sent to Saudi Arabia, UAE and Qatar during the last five years alongwith the procedure/criteria adopted for selection thereof; and*
- (b) *the steps being taken by the Government for sending more Pakistanis to those countries?*

Reply not received.

24. **Ms. Khalida Mansoor:**

Will the Minister for Textile Industry be pleased to state the location wise textile industries and power looms functioning in the country at present?

Reply not received.

25. **Ms. Khalida Mansoor:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the names of domestic and foreign organizations working for enhancement of domestic exports at present?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan):

The names of Domestic and Foreign Organizations working for the enhancement of Domestic Exports at present;

- a. The following Organizations are working for the enhancement of exports;
 - i. Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP).
 - ii. Pakistan Horticulture Development & Export Company (PHDEC).

b. Fifty one (51) trade offices in various countries are working for facilitating the private sector for promotion of exports from Pakistan.

26. **Ms. Belum Hasnain:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the names and designations of employees of Ministry of Foreign Affairs who alongwith their any member of family have dual nationality at present?

Reply not received.

27. **Ms. Belum Hasnain:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the year-wise total number of Pakistani prisoners released by India, Saudi Arabia and USA during the last three years alongwith the details of allegations against those prisoners;*
- (b) the year wise total number of Indian prisoners released by Pakistan during the said period alongwith details of allegations against those prisoners;*
- (c) whether the prisoners so released were convicted/sentenced by the courts of law; if so, the details thereof;*
- (d) whether said prisoners have served out the period of their imprisonment; and*
- (e) the details of agreement under which the said prisoners were released?*

Reply not received.

28. **Mrs. Shahida Rehmani:**

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that overseas Pakistanis are misbehaved by employees of the Pakistani embassies abroad; and*
- (b) *whether audit of said embassies has been conducted for the year 2013-14; if so, the details thereof?*

Reply not received.

29. **Mr. Asad Umar:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the details of expenditures incurred on foreign visits made by the present Prime Minister?

Reply not received.

30. **Chaudry Armaghan Subhani:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the lists of exportable surplus items have been furnished to Pakistani Foreign Missions abroad to make efforts for sale thereof; if so, the details thereof?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): The Government has been following the policy of focusing on facilitating the private sector to enhance our trade/export rather than giving the public sector enterprises any conspicuous role in the conduct of international trade. As such, the promotional efforts have to be calibrated accordingly. In this context, the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), which is the promotional arm of the Ministry, keeps circulating information regarding Pakistan's major exports items to our Foreign Mission on a regular basis. Furthermore, TDAP also endeavors to create awareness regarding our exportable products through its exhibitions in our potential export markets.

31. **Chaudry Armaghan Subhani:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the total number of export permits issued by the Ministry during the last five years till date alongwith the name of firms and nature of permits thereof?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): Licensing requirement has been done away with since 1993 and no export permit has been issued since then.

32. **Ms. Musarat Rafique Mahesar:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government for the release of Dr. Aafia Siddiqui?

Minister for Foreign Affairs: Under the Rules of Business 1973, repatriation of prisoners in Pakistan is a subject of the Ministry of Interior, which is the lead ministry in the case of the possible repatriation of Aafia Siddiqui. Nevertheless, the steps taken by the government in this regard are given herewith.

Dr. Aafia Siddiqui, was arrested by the Afghan National Police in Ghazni, Afghanistan on 17 July 2008. On 18 July 2008, while being interrogated by FBI agents, she seized an M-4 rifle from a US serviceman and fired two shots. In return, she was shot in the abdomen by a US soldier. She was transferred from Afghanistan to the Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC) New York on 4 August 2008 and indicted on seven counts including attempt to kill US nationals, armed assault, carrying a firearm, etc. The Government of Pakistan engaged a team of three reputed Attorneys, recommended by her family, to fight her case. The court found her guilty on all charges on 3 February 2010 and on 23 September 2010 sentenced her to 86 years in prison. She fired her lawyers and waived her right to appeal. The appeals court heard the appeal on 10 February 2012 and rejected it in a decision rendered in November 2012. She is detained in FMC Carswell, Texas since her sentencing.

The Government of Pakistan has been providing assistance to Aafia Siddiqui throughout her case and detention and has made persistent efforts for her repatriation to Pakistan. The Prime Minister of Pakistan also raised the issue during his official visit to Washington in October last year. Besides the Foreign Affairs Ministry, our Embassy in Washington and Consulate General in Houston are in close touch with her family and jail authorities to ensure her wellbeing. Consul General Houston or his representative visits her regularly and helps communicate her concerns about the conditions of her detention to the prison authorities and get her relief. The last consular visit took place on 14 May 2014.

Since the US had conveyed that it no longer enters into any bilateral prisoner exchange agreement, the only viable legal option for her repatriation is through

accession to either Council of Europe Convention on Transfer of Sentenced Persons (signed between EU and USA in 1985) or OAS- Organization of American States Inter-American Convention on Serving of Criminal Sentences Abroad. Following the approval of the Cabinet (28th August 2013) for accession to COE Convention, the concerned European authorities were approached. However, Pakistan's request was declined by Council of Europe in April 2014. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is trying to ascertain the reasons as to why COE did not accept Pakistan's request and how these could be addressed.

33. Mr. Abdul Qahar Khan Wadan:

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state the district-wise total number of persons sent abroad from Balochistan during the year 2013-14 till date?

Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (Pir Syed Sadruddin Shah Rashidi): The export of manpower is dealt by Bureau of Emigration & Overseas Employment and Overseas Employment Corporation.

Bureau of Emigration & Overseas Employment (BE&OE)

The district wise total number of persons sent abroad from Balochistan during the year 2013-14 is at **Annex-A**.

Overseas Employment Corporation (OEC)

The details of persons proceeding abroad through OEC are as follows:

S. No.	District	No. of persons dispatch
1.	Quetta	04
2.	Lasbela	04
3.	Pangur	03
4.	Khuzdar	01
Total		12

Annex-A

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PAKISTANIS PROCEEDED ABROAD FOR
EMPLOYMENT REGISTERED BY BUREAU OF EMIGRATION AND OVERSEAS
EMPLOYMENT DURING THE YEAR 2013 & 2014 (Upto June)

S. No	NAME OF THE DISTRICT	2013	2014	Total
1.	Quetta	1773	537	2310
2.	Pishin	73	30	103
3.	Loral	63	24	92
4.	Zhob	701	236	937
5.	Chaghi	122	88	210
6.	Sibi	141	18	159
7.	Nasirabad	61	43	104
8.	Kachhi	27	4	31
9.	Kohlu Agency	24	14	38
10.	Kalat	151	181	332
11.	Khuzdar	2057	405	2462
12.	Kharan	210	158	368
13.	Lasbela	545	362	907
14.	Turbat	34	75	109
15.	Gowadar	954	388	1342
16.	Panjgur	277	184	461
17.	Makran	96	12	108
18.	Jhalmagsi	13	43	56
19.	Killa Saifullah	10	3	13
20.	Killa Abdullah	44	58	102
21.	Musakhel	38	40	78
22.	Barkhan	175	123	298
23.	Bolan	42	7	49
24.	Dera Bugti	4	32	36
25.	Mastung	37	30	67
26.	Awaran	346	168	514
27.	Ziarat	30	37	67
28.	Sherani	581	358	939
29.	Jaffarabad	190	72	262
30.	Koch	469	306	775
Total:		9293	4036	13329

34. **Justice Retd. Iftikhar Ahmad Cheema:**

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the Photocopier is not available in the Consulate General of Pakistan, New York; if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (b) *whether staff deputed by the Ministry therein is creating difficulties for Pakistan overthere; if so, the reasons thereof?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs: (a) The Consulate General at New York has only 02 photocopiers. One of the photocopiers is used in the Consulate office and the second one is placed in the Consular Hall for the community free of charge. However, the facility of photocopying is extended only to the senior citizens and lady visitors accompanied by children as there are approximately 300 visitors daily to the Consulate for consular services.

It is worth-mentioning that the Mission's website www.pakistanconsulateny.org displays comprehensive information for the consular visitors so that they bring all required documents' copies etc. while coming to the Mission to avoid the hassle of making copies at the Consulate.

(b) Every day, the Consulate General caters to the consular needs of approximately 300 applicants. However, it has not received any serious complaint about its functioning or some untoward incident. Nevertheless, any complaint can be addressed on any of the following modes for redressal:

- (i) Seek immediate access to the Consul General/Consul;
- (ii) Drop complaint in the "Complaint Box"; or
- (iii) Send an email to the Mission.

The Mission takes immediate action on the complaints, so received.

35. **Rai Hasan Nawaz Khan:**

Will the Minister for Textile Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) *the sector and item-wise details of the targets fixed and achieved for export of textiles during the last five years;*

- (b) *whether Government has explored new markets other than European Union for textile exports during the year 2013-14; if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and*
- (c) *the country-wise details of the share of major textile products exported during the last five years alongwith the steps taken by Government to augment the said share of exports?*

Transferred to Commerce Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

MOHAMMAD RIAZ,
Secretary.

ISLAMABAD:
The 3rd August, 2014.