

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 26th October, 2020

112. ***Moulana Abdul Akbar Chitrali:**
(Deferred during 23rd Session)

Will the Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total amount of funds deposited in COVID-19 inland and abroad which was established to control COVID-19;*
- (b) *the detail of funds also granted to all provinces and Government of Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan; and*
- (c) *the further detail of amount un-utilized out of same at present?*

Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division: (a) The detail of funds deposited in COVID-19 Account/ Fund (Inland and Abroad), which was established to control COVID-19 is as under:—

International Donations	=	Rs. 1,060,348,414.29/-
Domestic Donations	=	Rs. 3,782,077,707.32/-
Total Amount	=	Rs. 4,842,426,121.61/-

An amount of Rs. 4,842,426,121.61/- has been deposited in COVID-19 Account/ Fund.

(b) No funds have been released to the provinces including Government of Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan.

(c) An amount of Rs.4,842,426,121.61/- is available at present since no funds have been utilized.

22. ***Sheikh Rohale Asghar:**
(Deferred during 26th Session)

Will the Minister for Aviation Division be pleased to state the reasons due to which the Roosevelt Hotel being sold/leased out to the America?

Minister for Aviation Division (Mr. Ghulam Sarwar Khan): * It is not correct that the Government has decided to sell the Roosevelt Hotel, New York, USA owned by PIA-Investment Limited (PIA-IL).

* However, Cabinet Committee on Privatization (CCoP) in its meeting held on 31st October, 2018, directed Aviation Division to make a detailed presentation on the possibility of construction of high-rise hotels on the land of Roosevelt Hotel, New York on Public Private Partnership (PPP) basis. Thereupon, PIA-IL engaged the services of M/s Deloitte Transactions and Business Analytics LLP to conduct the feasibility study. M/s Deloitte in its draft report dated 18th July, 2019, after analyzing multiple options recommended that the highest and best use of the Roosevelt Hotel property is to redevelop the site into a mixed use of primarily office tower over retail and condominium.

* Accordingly, Federal Cabinet in its meeting held on 7th July, 2020, inter-alia directed the Privatization Commission (PC) to initiate the process of appointment of Financial Advisor (FA) to undertake the envisaged leasing of Roosevelt site for setting up a Joint Venture (JV) project for prospective mixed use development through the best suited mode of Privatization, as delineated in the Privatization Commission Ordinance, 2000.

23. ***Sardar Ayaz Sadiq:**
(Deferred during 26th Session)

Will the Minister In-charge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to state:

(a) *steps taken by the Division to prepare subject-wise list of titles of all laws and rules made there under with reference to the business allocated to the said Division and its attached departments under the Rules of Business, 1973;*

- (b) *present status of above and provide subject-wise list of titles of said Laws/Rules;*
- (c) *whether it is a fact that steps have been taken by said Division to consolidate and amend said Laws/Rules to keep pace with changes in Society; if so, details; if not, reasons thereof;*
- (d) *whether it is also a fact that steps have been taken by said Division to determine anomalies, inconsistencies and difficulties in the administration and implementation of said Laws and Rules; if so, provide copy of latest post legislative scrutiny made by said Division; and*
- (e) *names of officers/branches appointed/designated thereof?*

Minister In-charge of the Cabinet Division: (a) Cabinet Division administered a number of laws (Acts of Parliament/Ordinances) relevant to the Business assigned to this Division in Schedule-II of the Rules of Business, 1973. A list of functions and laws under the Cabinet Division is attached at **Annex-A**.

- i. President's Salary, Allowances and Privileges Act, 1975.
- ii. President's Pension Act, 1974.
- iii. Prime Minister's Salary, Allowances and Privileges Act, 1975.
- iv. Federal Minister's and Ministers of State Salaries, Allowances and Privileges Act, 1975.
- v. Rules of Business, 1973.
- vi. The Governor's Salaries, Allowance and Privileges Order, 1975.
- vii. The Governor's Pensions Order, 1974.
- viii. Rules for the use of staff cars 1980.
- ix. Archival Material (Preservation, Export Control Act, 1975).
- x. National Archives Act 1993.
- xi. Pakistan Commission of Inquiry Act, 2017.
- xii. Public Procurement Regulatory Authority Ordinance, 2002.
- xiii. Public Procurement Rules, 2004.
- xiv. Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority Ordinance, 2002.
- xv. Naya Pakistan Housing & Development Authority Act, 2020.
- xvi. Pakistan Telecommunication (Re-Organization) Act No. XVII of 1996.
- xvii. Pakistan Telecommunication Rules, 2000.

- xviii. Universal Service Fund Rules, 2006.
- xix. Research & Development Rules, 2006.
- xx. Access Promotion Rules, 2004.
- xxi. Frequency Allocation Board (Release of Funds) Rules.
- xxii. Frequency Allocation Board Employees (Service) Regulations, 2014.
- xxiii. Regulation of Generation, Transmission and Distribution of Electric Power Act, 1997.

(b) Information is attached at **Annex-A**.

(c) The reply to the question is in affirmative. The laws are amended from time to time to bring them in conformity with the new and emerging realities. Also proposals of the Laws Commissions / Legislative Committees / Board of Governors / Board of Directors are duly processed in consultation with Law and Justice Division. Presently, the following cases are in process **Annex-B**.

- i. President's Salary Allowances and Privileges Act, 1975.
- ii. Prime Minister's Salary Allowances and Privileges Act, 1975.
- iii. OGRA Ordinance, 2002 have been amended on need basis.
- iv. A list of NEPRA rules / regulations / SROs amended from time to time.
- v. All laws and rules in pursuance of provisions of PTA Act, 1996 amended from time to time on need basis.
- vi. PPRA Ordinance 2002 and PPRA Rules 2004 have been amended through best international practices to keep pace with the society.

(d) Yes; Cabinet Division is actively following guidelines and implementing decisions of law making authorities as and when required. Presently following steps have taken.

Anomalies / inconsistencies in PPRA Ordinance, 2002 have been removed through PPRA Ordinance, 2020 **Annex-C (i)**. Similarly, PPRA Rules, 2004 have been removed through SRO dated 15-5-2020 **Annex-C (ii)**.

- (e) 1. Mr. Rizwan Malik, MD, PPRA.
- 2. Consultant (Legal/HR), FAB.

3. Chairman & Members (Oil, Gas & Finance), OGRA.
4. Lt. Gen. Anwar Ali Hyder (Retd), Acting Chairman, Naya Pakistan Housing & Development Authority.
5. Mr. Tauseef H. Farooqi, Chairman, NEPRA.
6. Maj. Gen. Amir Azeem Bajwa, Member (Technical)/Chairman, PTA.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

35. ***Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak:**
(Deferred during 26th Session)

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of BECSs that were rehabilitated after the earthquake of 2005 in the affected areas, indicating also their location-wise details; and*
- (b) the total amount of funds that were allocated for their rehabilitation, indicating also the amount of the funds released out of the funds earmarked for that purpose?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): (a) Model of BEC School is Home Based Community School. BEC schools are not being run as formal school in a proper school building. Teacher/Community provides a room in the area where there is need to open a BEC School. BEC Schools in AJK were established in 2008. In 2005 there were no BECS in AJK at the time of earthquake. In Gilgit Baltistan no school was damaged due to earthquake. In KPK, at Balakot, the then Ministry of Education established 20 tent schools on temporary basis that were closed after some time.

- (b) Nil.

89. ***Syed Abrar Ali Shah:**

Will the Minister for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the channels which are banned/shut down by PEMRA in tenure of the present Government till date; and*

(b) *the names of the channels whose licences were cancelled alongwith reasons thereof?*

Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Syed Shibli Faraz): (a) & (b) Licence of M/s Central Media Network (Pvt.) Ltd. / Value TV using name as Channel-24 were suspended twice on 03-07-2020 and 30-08-2020 on account of following:—

- For airing highly unreasonable content containing hatred that is likely to create hatred among the people, prejudicial to the maintenance of law and order and to disturb public peace (**Annex-I**).
- For violation of its approved programme mix / unauthorized change of category (**Annex-II**).

2. Moreover, licence of M/s Tilton Pvt. Ltd. (Sohni Dharti) was revoked on 26-06-2020 for suspension of its transmission without prior approval of the Authority in violation of Section 28 of the PEMRA Ordinance 2002 as amended by PEMRA (Amendment) Act (**Annex-III**).

3. Furthermore, PEMRA has issued prohibition orders / licensees were banned for violating various provisions of PEMRA laws. Detail of the same is as under:—

Sr. No.	Channel Name	Date of Prohibition Order	Description of Violation
1.	All Satellite TV Channels	01-10-2020	Prohibition order regarding broadcast / rebroadcast of programmes of proclaimed offenders / absconders (Annex-IV)
2.	M/s abbaik Pvt. Ltd. (Bol News)	11-08-2020	For airing a campaign allegedly defaming PBA and three media buying agencies (Annex-V).
3.	M/s Labbaik Pvt. Ltd. (Bol News)	08-07-2020	For airing false and frivolous allegations against the management of Geo Group (Annex-VI)
4.	M/s Ironline Production Pvt. Ltd. (Cinemachi Kids)	05-05-2020	For airing animated series “Story of Prophet- (Annex-VII)

Sr. No.	Channel Name	Date of Prohibition Order	Description of Violation
5.	All STV/ FM/ Distribution service licensees	05-11-2019	Ban on airing of unapproved / illegal Housing Schemes (Annex-VIII)
6.	All STV / FM Radio Licensees	24-10-2019	Prohibition for airing lottery programmes (Annex-IX)

4. PEMRA has never imposed any arbitrary sanction on electronic media but has always believed in consultation with its stakeholders to safeguard their legitimate interests and ensure healthy content to the viewers. Above all, PEMRA believes in self-regulation and media freedom. Even if there are any violations, media is guided through counseling and training.

5. However, where PEMRA observe gross violation of its laws, legal proceedings are initiated under Section 27, 29, 30 and 33 of PEMRA Ordinance 2002 as amended by PEMRA (Amendment) Act, 2007, same are reproduced hereunder for reference:

Section 27. Prohibition of broadcast media or distribution service operation:

The Authority shall by order in writing, giving reasons therefore, prohibit any broadcast media or distribution service operator from:

- (a) broadcasting or re-broadcasting or distributing any programme or advertisement if it is of the opinion that such particular programme or advertisement is against the ideology of Pakistan or is likely to create hatred among the people or is prejudicial to the maintenance of law and order or is likely to disturb public peace and tranquility or endangers national security or is pornographic, obscene or vulgar or is offensive to the commonly accepted standards of decency; or*
- (b) engaging in any practice or act which amounts to abuse of media power by way of harming the legitimate interests of another licensee or willfully causing damage to any other person.*

Section 29. Power to authorize inspection:

- (1) *The Authority may authorize any of its officers or its nominees to enter the premises of a broadcast media or distribution service 63 operator for purposes of inspection.*
- (2) *A broadcast media station or distribution service premises shall, at all reasonable times, be open to inspection by an authorized officer under sub-section (1) and the licensee shall provide such officer with every assistance and facility, in performing his duties.*
- (3) *The authorized officer shall, within forty-eight hours of the inspection, submit his inspection report to the Authority.*
- (4) *The Authority may authorize any of its officers to undertake investigation, in the manner it may prescribe, in any matter with regard to its functions and to seek any specific information, from any person, which the Authority may deem useful in order to enable it to determine and dispose off such matter.*
- (5) *The Authority or as the case may be the Chairman, after issuing show cause notice to broadcast media or distribution service may seize its broadcast or distribution service equipment, or seal the premises, which is being used in contravention of the provisions of this Ordinance or the rules made thereunder or any other law: Provided that the equipment shall be returned to the holder of a valid licence after imposing on him such penalty as the Authority may determine.*
- (6) *The Authority may, after the licensee has been, given reasonable opportunity to show cause, impose fine up to one million rupees on a licensee who contravenes any of the provisions of this Ordinance or the rules or regulations made thereunder.*

Section 30. Power to vary conditions, suspend or revoke the licence:

- (1) *The Authority may revoke or suspend the licence of a broadcast media or distribution service by an order in writing on one or more of the following grounds, namely:*

- (a) *the licensee has failed to pay the licence fee, annual renewal fee or any other charges including fine, if any;*
 - (b) *the licensee has contravened any provision of this Ordinance or rules or regulations made thereunder: Provided that in the case of revocation of a licence of a broadcast media an opinion to this effect shall also be obtained from the Council of Complaints;*
 - (c) *the licensee has failed to comply with any condition of the licence; and*
 - (d) *where the licensee is a company, and its shareholders have transferred a majority of the shares in the issued or paid up capital of the company or if control of the company is otherwise transferred to persons not being the original shareholders of the company at the time of grant of licence, without written permission of the Authority.*
- (2) *The Authority may vary any of the terms and conditions of the licence where it deems that such variation is in the public interest.*
 - (3) *Except the reason of necessity in the public interest a licence shall not be varied, suspended or revoked under sub-section (1) or (2) unless the licensee has been given reasonable notice to show cause and a personal hearing.*

Section 33. Offences and penalties:

- (1) *Any broadcast media or distribution service operator or person who violates or abets the violation of any of the provisions of the Ordinance shall be guilty of an offence punishable with a fine which may extend to ten million rupees.*
- (2) *Where such broadcast media or distribution service operator or person repeats the violation or abetment, such person shall be guilty of an offence punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.*

- (3) *Where the violation, or abetment of the violation of any provision of this Ordinance is made by a person who does not hold a licence, such violation shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to four years, or with fine, or with both, in addition to the confiscation of the equipment used in the commission of the act.*
- (4) *Whosoever damages, removes, tampers with or commits theli of any equipment of a broadcast media or distribution service station licensed by the Authority, including transmitting or broadcasting apparatus, receivers, boosters, converters, distributors, antennae, wires, decoders, set-top boxes or multiplexers shall be guilty of an offence punishable with imprisonment which may extend to three years, or with line, or both.*

5. Despite numerous advices and warnings issued on various instances, the licensees, which have been found violating PEMRA laws, are issued show cause notices, warnings, and imposed fines. In some cases, where gross violation of PEMRA laws observed, the programme/ anchorperson were also banned.

6. It is also stated that the PEMRA is committed to ensure regulating private electronic media in the Country with earnest commitment and capacity to provide level playing field under the relevant provisions of the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan as well as PEMRA laws.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

90. ***Mr. Kesoo Mal Kheeral Das:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total amount allocated for Benazir Income Support Programme/Ehsaas Kifaaalat Programme during the current financial year;*
- (b) *whether the aforesaid amount is released under head of existing funds/new funds; if so, the details thereof; and*

(c) *the number of deserving persons have got benefit or being benefitted from the said funds alongwith the province-wise detail of such needy persons among whom fund is being disbursed by the Government?*

Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety

Division: (a) An amount of Rs.200 billion is allocated for BISP/ Ehsaas Kafaalat Program during the current financial year.

(b) The aforesaid amount is released under the head of the existing funds. The said allocation was kept under demand No. “026-F C21B02-Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division” in government budget pink book.

(c) BISP is currently providing cash assistance to around 4.65 million active beneficiaries under its Ehsaas Kafaalat program. Province wise breakup of the same is given as under:—

PROVINCE/ REGION	ACTIVE BENEFICIARIES
FATAs	115,847
PUNJAB	1,707,924
BALUCHISTAN	188,309
CAPITAL	6,590
KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA	842,619
SINDH	1,672,396
GILGIT BALTISTAN	37,497
AJ&K	81,509
TOTAL:	4,652,691

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

Will the Minister for Aviation Division be pleased to state the year-wise amount spent on the PIA's Roosevelt Hotel by the Government during the last three financial years?

Minister for Aviation Division (Mr. Ghulam Sarwar Khan): The year-wise amount spent on maintenance of the Roosevelt Hotel, New York for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019 is as under:

Account Head	2017	2018	2019
Capital Expenditure	\$ 3.1 M	\$ 2.5 M	\$ 6.4 M

92. ***Ms. Zille Huma:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division be pleased to state what criteria and mechanisms of delivery have been set out under the Ehsaas Programme for the remote areas of Pakistan especially in KPK for the newly merged areas which are lacking facilities of Bank or Post Office?

Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division: Brief on criterion for identification/ selection of deserving people under the Ehsaas Kafaalat (Unconditional Cash Transfer) Programme is attached as **Annexure-A** and brief on payment delivery mechanism is attached as **Annexure-B**.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

93. ***Choudhary Faqir Ahmad:**

Will the Minister In-charge of Cabinet Division be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is primary responsibility of the National Economic Council (NEC), to advise the Federal and Provincial Governments regarding formulating plans in respect of social and economic wellbeing of the people;*
- (b) whether the NEC has taken notice that most of social-economy projects which were initiated by the previous Provincial and Federal Governments have been stopped by the present Government;*
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and*

- (d) *what remedial steps are being taken by the NEC to pursue the incumbent Federal and Provincial Government of Punjab to complete such projects, at the earliest?*

Transferred to Planning Development and Special Initiatives Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

94. ***Mr. Muhammad Afzal Khokhar:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division be pleased to state:

- (a) *the province-wise total number of langar Khanay which have been opened throughout the country including Islamabad; and*
- (b) *the total cost incurred thereon?*

Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division: (a) Detail of province-wise total number of Langer Khanas which have been opened in the country including Islamabad is as under:—

Province	City	No. of Langer Khanas
Punjab	Islamabad	02
	Lodhran	01
KPK	Swabi	01
	Peshawar	01
Sindh	Umarkot	01
Total		06

(b) There is no expenditure of the Government on establishment or operation of Langer Khanas. Government's role is only to facilitate in opening of Langer Khanas. Expenditure on necessary construction and operations is borne by Saylani Welfare Trust.

95. ***Mr. Abdul Shakoor:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to refer to the Starred Question No.182 replied on 14-02-2020 and to state preparations plan and time period required by Federal Government for calling upon CCI meeting to create consensus with federating units for release of 3% share for merged districts of erstwhile FATA out of federal divisible pool as approved by Federal Cabinet on 2nd March, 2017?

Transferred to Finance Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

96. ***Mr. James Iqbal:**

Will the Minister for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the monthly salary of Managing Director, Chairman and Deputy Managing Director of Pakistan Television Corporation alongwith detail of perks and privileges taken by them?

Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Syed Shibli Faraz):
Statement showing the monthly salary, perks and privileges of the Managing Director PTVC is attached at **annexure-A**.

As far as question regarding Chairman PTVC is concerned, it is stated that in the light of Islamabad High Court, Islamabad decision dated 17-09-2020 in writ petition No. 2250/2019, the post of Chairman is vacant. Whereas the post of Deputy Managing Director has been abolished *w.e.f.* 05-09-2019 with the approval of the Board of Directors, which decision has also been upheld by the Islamabad High Court, Islamabad in Writ Petition No. 3512/2019 *vide* order dated 17-09-2020.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

97. ***Mr. Murtaza Javed Abbasi:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted an assessment on scientific basis, in recent past, to identify the studying burden of

syllabus and in particular, teaching methodology in general, for children at primary level in Federal Administrative Educational Institutions;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;*
- (c) if such assessment has not been made, is there any proposal under consideration of the Government to conduct such assessment;*
- (d) if such assessment has been made them, what steps are being taken by the Government to revamp and overhaul the education system at primary level, particularly to make the syllabus easy and simple for the study of children at primary level?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training

(Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): (a) As per Education Sector Reforms (ESR) Federal Government has constituted an organization at Federal level Namely: National Education Assessment System (NEAS) for this specific purpose having the mandate to conduct national assessment studies across the country to identify and diagnose the strengths and weaknesses of existing curricula, teaching methodologies and student learning achievements correlating with background questionnaires. The sample for the national assessment studies of NEAS is based on all Strata's (Gender and location) using Student Learning Outcomes (SLO's) based validated assessment tools to reflect the true picture of all national units. The national representative sample is selected from the National Educational Management Information System (NEMIS) data base.

In recent past, NEAS with the approval of Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, Islamabad has conducted National Achievement Test (NAT-2016-17) at Grade IV and Grade VIII **across the country** over a sample of 30,000 students in the subjects of General Science, Mathematics, English (Reading and Writing) and Urdu (Reading and Writing). **Moreover, in the history of Pakistan NEAS** has also first time participated in an international study namely: Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) along with other 62 countries in the subjects of Mathematics and Science at Grade 4 in April, 2019 to determine the competitive achievement scores of Pakistani students to establish an international bench mark. The result of TIMSS-2019 study are awaited due to the Pandemic of COVID-2019.

(b) The detail of national and international assessment study has been attached as **Annex-I**.

(c) It is stated that NEAS has already planned and conducting National Achievement Test (NAT-2019) and the process of data collection has been completed in ICT, Punjab, Azad Jammu & Kashmir and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa. However, data collection in the Provinces of Sindh, Balochistan and Gilgit Baltistan has been halted due to the closure of schools in wake of the pandemic of COVID-2019.

(d) NEAS on the base of findings of its assessment study disseminate its recommendations (**Annex-II**) to relevant stakeholder's *i.e.*

- Policy Makers.
- Curriculum Developers.
- Book writers.
- Teacher Training Institutions.

On the recommendations of NEAS, the Single National Curriculum (SNC) of Science and Mathematics at Grade-4 has been aligned to international standards keeping in view the TIMSS-2019 curricula.

Standardized assessment techniques are introduced for student's assessment to reflect the true picture of assessment at elementary level.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

98. ***Sheikh Rohale Asghar:**

Will the Minister for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state whether opposition parties are given representation in all the programmes of Pakistan Television?

Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Syed Shibli Faraz):

As per policy, politicians representing opposition parties are given space and time in prime time political shows of PTV. Whereas, opinion of independent speakers representing all walks of life is accommodated in rest of all PTV programs focusing social and cultural shows including morning shows.

99. ***Mr. Muhammad Aslam Khan:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of lady teachers working on deputation alongwith their names and date of deputation thereof;*
- (b) the number of teachers repatriated to their parental departments after completion of five years;*
- (c) whether it is also a fact that hundred of teachers have been working on deputation for the last ten years; if so, the reasons for not repatriating those teachers to their parental departments even after completion of their deputation period; and*
- (d) what action is taken by the Government against such deputationists who are still deputed in contravention of Government deputation rules?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): (a) Presently, 324 lady teachers are working on deputation basis in educational institutions under Federal Directorate of Education (FDE). The details of their name and date of deputation in FDE is placed at **Annex-A**.

(b) Total 74 teachers have been repatriated to their parent department after completion of their 05 year service in FDE, so far.

(c) Yes. After amendment of Rule 20-A *vide* Establishment Division Office Memorandum No. 10/30/97-R-2, dated 16-04-2012 (**Annex-B**) the person working under wedlock policy which allows to retain their services on deputation basis beyond 5 years subject to provision of NOC for extension in the deputation period from their parent department.

(d) Establishment Division has issued Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) *vide* office memorandum No. 10/30/97-R-II, dated 28th January, 2020 (**copy enclosed at Annex-C**) to repatriate those deputationists who could not provide NOCs for extension beyond 5 years from their respective departments. As a result most of the deputationist approached Honorable Islamabad High Court (IHC) and got stay orders against their repatriation.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

100. ***Ch. Muhammad Barjees Tahir:**

Will the Minister for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state what are the steps being taken by the Government to control or decrease the number of advertisements being published or advertised by the Ministry and its attached departments, subordinate offices, autonomous or semi autonomous organizations, corporations, bodies and authorities in print and electronic media?

Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Syed Shibli Faraz):

As regards the steps being taken by this Department to control or decrease the number of advertisements being published or advertised or released in print and electronic media, the last four-year's comparative detailed account of advertisements released through this Department is as under:—

Sr.#	Financial Year	Amount of Advertisements Released in PKR (Billions)
1.	2016-17	5.83
2.	2017-18	4.22
3.	2018-19	2.64
4.	2019-20	2.59

Further details are also enclosed herewith at **Annex-I**.

Annex-I

**GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

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Statement showing detail of federal government advertisements released through Press Information Department, Islamabad in Print media and Electronic media during the last 04 financial years.

Detail is as under:—

S #	Financial year	Print Media	Electronic Media	Total
1.	2016-2017	3,833,640,359	997,140,610	5,830,780,969/-
2.	2017-2018	3,397,950,703	822,989,885	4,220,940,588/-
3.	2018-2017	2,606,639,590	36,986,627	2,643,626,217/-
4.	2019-2020	2,131,344,799	457,077,754	2,588,422,553/-

Prepared by
Munawar Iqbal
Stenotypist

Checked by
Shahid Rafique
Deputy Director Advertisement

101. ***Dr. Mahreen Razzaq Bhutto:**

Will the Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication be pleased to state the concrete steps taken by the Government to promote Pakistan's Information Technology and increase IT Industry related exports?

Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication (Syed Amin ul Haque): To promote Information Technology and increase IT Industry related exports, Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication is committed to excellence and the efforts in this regard has paid off and IT exports has shown spike upto 23% even in the COVID-19. The steps taken by Ministry for promotion of ICTs are placed at **Annex-A**.

Annex-A

- i. IT & IT enabled Services (ITeS) export remittances comprising of computer services and call center services have surged to US \$1.231 billion at a growth rate of 23.71% during FY 2019-20 in comparison to US\$ 994.87 million during Fiscal Year 2018-19.
- ii. IT & ITeS export remittances during FY 2018-19 increased by 19.3% in comparison to US \$ 833.87 million during FY 2017-18.
- iii. Zero income tax on IT&ITeS export income till June, 2525. Zero income tax for PSEB registered IT start-ups for 3-years, including

no minimum tax or withholding tax. Up to 100% foreign ownership of IT & ITeS companies. Up to 100% repatriation of profits for foreign IT&ITeS investors. Tax holiday for venture capital funds till 2024.

- iv. Further to improve the perception of Pakistan as an attractive destination for IT outsourcing and investment, as well as providing networking opportunities to the IT Industry.
- v. Ministry and its organizations are actively participating in international exhibition to experience new vista of learning and subscribe to modern innovative practices.
- vi. Close liaison is being established with Pakistani Mission abroad to promote trade and attract investments in ICTs sector.
- vii. Technology Park and establishment of IT Zone for promotion of ICTs.
- viii. Facilitation of Freelance environment.
- ix. E-Commerce policy and implementation of E-Governance.
- x. National Incubation Center (NIC) to promote innovative ideas in the field of ICTs.

102. ***Agha Hassan Baloch:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Establishment Division be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the persons belonging to other provinces have been recruited in the name of Balochistan on the quota reserved for Balochistan;*
- (b) *if so, the steps being taken by the Government to scrutinize the originality or genuineness of domicile; and*
- (c) *whether the persons possessing domiciles of different cities of Balochistan as per Balochistan quota have recently made journey/travelled during the recent years; if so, the detail thereof?*

Minister In-charge of the Establishment Division: (a) No person from other Provinces has been recruited against the posts reserved for Balochistan quota. The quota is being observed in letter & spirit in all the Federal Government Departments as per quota allocation (**Annex-I**).

(b) (i) The data regarding the employees recruited against Balochistan quota was compiled and forwarded to Governor's Secretariat, Balochistan for verification of the domiciles at their end.

(ii) Ministries / Divisions have been asked to verify the domiciles of the employees recruited against Balochistan quota from respective provincial authorities (**Annex-II**).

(c) This does not pertain to Establishment Division as the journey record is not maintained.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

103. ***Sheikh Fayyaz Ud Din:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state steps being taken by the Government to abolish class-based education system by introducing uniform education system or policy for Islamabad?

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): Keeping in view the prevailing disparity in our education system and in line with the vision of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, National Curriculum Council, Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training has initiated the coordination in development of Single National Curriculum (SNC) in the country with active participation of all federating units and other relevant stakeholders. The process of development of SNC is being carried out in three phases. In the first phase SNC for grade Pre-I to V has been completed. The documents of SNC are available on the Ministry's website.

At present, model textbooks are being developed by the authors who have been selected through an open competition.

Single National Curriculum (SNC) Phase-I for Grade Pre-I to V, will be implemented throughout the country from March 2021. In 2nd phase SNC for Grade 6 to 8 will be implemented throughout Pakistan by March 2022 and for 9 to 12 by March 2023.

104. ***Ms. Nasiba Channa:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) the policy or detail of precautionary measures taken by the Government to control the violence against children in various educational institutions;*
- (b) whether action is taken by the Government against victimizing of the children through violence in educational institutions, under the prevailing laws in the country; and*
- (c) the number of incidents of victimization, through violence against the children which have been reported so far and the action taken against the persons involved therein?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): (a) Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) has zero tolerance on corporal punishment in its all educational institutions. In this connection, Policy Guidelines has already been issued (**Annexure-A**). Based on aforesaid policy/ SOPs, Counter Harassment and Anti-bullying Committees have been constituted in every educational institution with the clear directions to implement Prevention. Response Strategy to ensure safe and secure environment in educational institutions. The composition of these committees is as under:—

- Head of Institution Convener.
- Respective Area Education Officer Member.
- Deputy Head of Institutions Member/ Secretary.

(b) In case of reporting of such incident, cases area dealt are per law/policy including disciplinary proceeding under Government Servants (Efficiency and Discipline) Rules, 1973.

(c) There is no such incidence reported yet to FDE *i.e.* corporal punishment/violence. In case of any such incident is reported, accordingly action is taken by the FDE in the light of devised SOPs mentioned in Counter Harassment and Anti bullying Committees (**Annexure-B**).

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

105. ***Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division be pleased to state:

- (a) the detail of ratio of poverty for the years ending on June 30, 2017, 2018-2019 and 2020, respectively;*
- (b) the current ratio of the poverty;*
- (c) whether it is a fact that independent experts of the economy are forecasting increase in ratio of poverty in coming years;*
- (d) if so, what steps are being taken by the Government to control the increasing ratio of poverty?*

Reply not received.

106. ***Mr. Muhammad Aslam Khan:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) the students/children are facing immense problems in getting admission in Colleges/Schools in Islamabad as a result of thousands of students/children are out of colleges/schools;*
- (b) what steps are being taken by the Government to give admissions to those children who could not get admissions;*
- (c) their precious time is being wasted due to non-provision of admissions in aforesaid educational institutions?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): (a) As per admission policy, every child has the right to get admission in the nearest school/College to his/her residence. It is further added that every institution has specific/limited intake capacity to ensure quality of education. Accordingly, admissions are made as per available capacity. However, those who could not be accommodated in desired school/College due to shortage of space are accommodated to the other nearby Islamabad Model Schools/Colleges. No one is denied from admission.

(b) To facilitate the general public, a Committee of senior Directors of FDE has also been constituted in Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) comprising of Director Colleges, Director Schools and Director Academics with the mandate to facilitate general public regarding admissions in various classes of Islamabad Model Schools/Colleges. Moreover, respective Area Education Officers were also directed to establish Admission Facilitation Cell for addressing issues faced for getting admissions.

(c) As above.

107. ***Mr. Abdul Qadir Patel:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Establishment Division be pleased to state:

- (a) the post-wise age limit for jobs in institutions of Government;*
- (b) the relaxation, which is permissible to each post at present;*
- (c) whether Government has taken notice that a large number of youth has exceeded the age limit for employment, as fixed due to fewer jobs opportunities in the public sector in the recent years;*
- (d) if so, is there any proposal under consideration of the Government to increase the general relaxation in age for Government jobs considering the increasing ratio of unemployment in the country; if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons thereof?*

Minister In-charge of the Establishment Division: (a) Age relaxation for government jobs is governed by initial appointment to civil posts (Relaxation of Age Limit Rules 1993) (**Annex-I**). These rules are not applicable to induction through CSS, which fall under “*CSS Competitive exams Rules 2019*” [issued vide *SRO. 1452(I)/2018, dated 27th November, 2018*] (**Annex-II**). The post-wise age limit for job institutions of Government are as stated below:

Age Limits Prescribed in the Recruitment Rules

Basic Pay Scale	Minimum	Maximum
1-15	18	25
16	20	28
17	22	30
18	25	35
19	32	40
20	37	45
21	42	50

(b) General permissible upper age relaxation with respect to BPS is stated as under:—

Basic pay Scale	General Upper Age Relaxation
1-15	+5 years
16	+ 5 years
17	+ 5 years
18	+ 5 years
19	+ 5 years
20	+ 5 years
21	+ 5 years

(c) The Government has created multiple avenues for the public at large to claim age relaxation in every BPS. Maximum age limit shall also be relaxed as per following details:—

S. No.	Category of candidates	Age relaxation admissible
(i)	(a) Candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Buddhist Community, Recognized Tribes of the Tribal Areas, Azad Kashmir and Northern Areas for all posts under the Federal Government.	03 years
	(b) Candidates belong to Sindh (R) and Balochistan for posts in BPS-I5 and below under the Federal Government.	03 years
(ii)	Released or Retired Officers / personnel of the Armed Forces Pakistan.	15 years or the number of years actually served in the Armed of Forces of Pakistan, whichever is less.
(iii)	Government Servants who have completed 02 years continuous Government service on the closing date for receipt of applications.	10 years, up to the age of 55 years.
(iv)	Disabled persons for appointment to posts in BPS-I5 and below.	10 years
(v)	Son or Daughter of a deceased civil servant who dies during service	05 years
(vi)	The relaxation in upper age limit for widow / widower of the deceased government servant shall be relaxed upto the age for appointment under the Prime Minister's Assistance Package.	50 years
(vii)	President or Prime Minister can grant age relaxation to any individual on extreme compassionate grounds	3 years

(d) At present there is no proposal under consideration by the Government to increase the general relaxation in the age for Government jobs.

Age relaxation up to 5 years is over and above age relaxation to various categories. Reference answers to Q(b) and Q(c) for details.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

108. ***Dr. Nafisa Shah:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state the details of functioning/policy of National Curriculum Council Secretariat established in Islamabad?

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): * NCC serves as a professional, advisory and consultative national body to steer and guide the development of curriculum in close collaboration with all the federating units.

- * From 2016 onwards, NCC developed the following:
 - Minimum Standards of Quality Education
 - National Curriculum Framework
 - Values Education Supplement for Curriculum
 - Curriculum for Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) 2017-18 from Grade Pre I-VIII
 - Textbooks for ICT from Grade Pre I-V
- * At present NCC is coordinating development of Single National Curriculum (SNC) for the country with active input of all federating units and other stakeholders. SNC for Grade Pre I-V has been developed and model textbooks are being developed by the authors, selected through a competitive process.
- * The Secretariat of National Curriculum Council is located on Plot 35 H-9/4 Islamabad. Since 1970's this building has been used as Curriculum Wing where experts from throughout Pakistan have been gathering and developing K-12 education curriculum for Pakistani students.
- * NCC secretariat in Islamabad is responsible for coordination among all the federating units primarily in the field of curriculum development.

109. ***Ms. Zille Huma:**

Will the Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunications be pleased to state the names and designations of employees in Ministry and its attached departments or Divisions who were on visits within the country and foreign country alongwith purpose of visits and detail of amount spent on each employee's visits thereof?

Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunications (Syed Amin Ul Haque): The requisite detail on behalf of Ministry of IT & Telecom and its Attached Department *i.e.* NITB is placed at **Annexure-A & B**, respectively.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

110. ***Ms. Shahida Rehmani:**

Will the Minister for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 2400 low paid employees of Pakistan Television Corporation (PTVC) being removed from their services; if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the said employees and the detail of their salary; and*
- (b) whether it is also a fact that favorite persons are being appointed on the salary of hundreds of thousands of rupees; if so, the details of the higher officers and superiors with their salaries?*

Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Syed Shibli Faraz):

(a) It is clarified that neither PTVC removed nor any case is under consideration for removal of 2400 low paid employees, at the moment.

(b) PTVC is not making appointments on regular basis, whoever, to compete with the private TV Channels all recruitments have been made on contractual basis in accordance with PTV service rules and decision made by PTV Board of Directors on merit to meet the emergent operational requirements of the Corporation. So, there is no question of appointment of blue eyed individuals.

111. ***Ms. Nasiba Channa:**

Will the Minister for Aviation Division be pleased to state the detail of domestic routes where flights of Pakistan International Airlines are in deficit and profitable, also detail of each separately at present?

Minister for Aviation Division (Mr. Ghulam Sarwar Khan):

Details of routes which are in surplus over Direct Operating Cost (DOC, this represents all the directly attributable cost which are related to flight operations)

based on January-March 2020 are placed at **Annex-I**. The details of routes which are in deficit over Direct Operating Cost (DOC) based on January-March 2020 are placed at **Annex-II**.

Annex-I

PROFIT MAKING ROUTES

Route Names

Karachi-Islamabad-Karachi
 Karachi-Lahore-Karachi
 Islamabad/Karachi-Quetta-Islamabad/Karachi
 Karachi-Peshawar-Karachi
 Karachi-Faisalabad-Karachi
 Islamabad-Skardu-Islamabad
 Lahore-Quetta-Lahore
 Multan-Lahore-Multan

Annex-II

DEFICIT MAKING ROUTES

Route Names

Islamabad-Lahore-Islamabad
 Karachi-Sialkot-Karachi
 Islamabad-Multan-Islamabad
 Islamabad-Sukkur-Islamabad
 Karachi-Bhawalpur-Karachi
 Karachi-Multan-Karachi
 Karachi-Panjgor-Karachi
 Karachi-Rahim Yar Khan-Karachi
 Karachi- Sukkur-Karachi
 Lahore-Rahim Yar Khan-Lahore
 Lahore-Sukkur-Lahore

Karachi-Gawadar-Karachi
Islamabad-Rahim Yar Khan-Islamabad
Islamabad-Chitral-Islamabad
Islamabad-Gilgit-Islamabad
Karachi-Dalbadin-Karachi
Karachi-Faisalabad-Karachi
Karachi-Turbat-Karachi

112. ***Syed Agha Rafiullah:**

Will the Minister for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that certain persons were appointed in the Ministry recently, in Management Pay Scale, commonly known as MP-II and MP-III;*
- (b) if so, the detail of such persons, alongwith expertise of each in the relevant field;*
- (c) whether the posts, on which, such persons are appointed were advertised; if so, the details thereof alongwith total number of persons, applied, called for written, interviewed against each post;*
- (d) if such posts were not advertised, the justification of appointment against such posts; and*
- (e) whether the aforesaid appointees had ever worked in media wing of any political party in the past; if so, the name of such party?*

Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Syed Shibli Faraz): (a) 06 appointments have been made in Ministry of Information and Broadcasting/ against the management position scales through competitive selection process.

(b) The following persons have been appointed in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting against the Management Pay Scale:

S. #	Name	Designation
1	Mr. Imran Haider Ghazali	General Manager, Digital Media Wing (MP-II)
2	Syed Muhammad Muzamil Hassan	Digital Media Consultant (MP-III)
3	Mr. Usman Bin Zaheer	Digital Communication Officer (MP-III)
4	Mr. Shahbaz Khan	Digital Communication Officer (MP-III)
5	Mr. Naeem Ahmed Yasin,	Digital Communication Officer (MP-III)
6	Syeda Dhanak Hashmi, Digital	Digital Communication Officer (MP-III)

Personal Profiles of all the qualified candidates are placed at **Annex-I** for better review of their credentials.

(c) The posts were advertised in the Daily DAWN (English) and Express (Urdu) on September 18, 2020 (**Annex-II**). Total 462 applications were received in response to the said advertisement as per detail given below:

S.#	Name of Post	No. of posts	Application received	Shortlisted candidates
1	General Manager (Head of Wing) (MP-II)	01	76	10
2	Digital Media Consultant (MP-III)	01	67	11
3	Digital Communication Officer (MP-III)	05	319	52
Total		07	462	73

(d) The posts were advertised in the press as explained in Sl. No. “c”.

(e) The applications were scrutinized as per criteria given in the advertisement and all codal formalities were met. As far as working of the appointees with Media Wing of any political party is concerned, their personal profiles/CVs are already placed at **Annex-I** for better review of their credentials. The Digital Media Wing is serving under PIO in Press Information Department without any political consideration.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

113. ***Mr. Naveed Aamir Jeeva:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division be pleased to state the year-wise details of assistance of every kind, provided by the Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal to non-Muslims during the last five years?

Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division: The year wise detail of assistance of every kind, provided by the Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal (PBM) to non-Muslims during the last five years is placed at **Annex-A**.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

@114. ***Syed Mehmood Shah:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 3G and 4G service is suspended in Districts Kalat and Sorab for the last three years;*
- (b) if so, whether the concerned departments have examined that over all circumstances are suitable to reinstate 3G and 4G service overthere;*
- (c) if so, the time by which 3G and 4G service will be restored or reinstated and the steps being taken by the Ministry so far in this regard?*

Minister In-charge of the Cabinet Division: (a) Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication (MoIT&T) issued Policy Directive under Section 8 of Pakistan Telecommunication (Re-Organization) Act, 1996 *vide* letter No. 5-1/2009-DT dated 26th December 2009 regarding “**Closure of Telecom Services due to National Security Concerns**”. Pursuant to the GoP Policy Directive, Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) issued. Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) *vide* letter No. 6-135/2010/Enf/PTA dated 15th Feb. 2010, to telecom service providers for handling the closure activity. However, actions are taken by PTA, as and when directed by Ministry of Interior (MoI), Government of Pakistan (GoP), under relevant clauses of the Act and policy directions.

@ Transferred from Information Technology and Telecommunication Division.

(b) Currently voice and data services (Fixed Line / Fixed line Broadband, mobile voice / data) are available in entire Balochistan, except few districts of Balochistan where only wireless broadband services have restrictions in respectful compliance of, GoP directions. The same includes Kalat and Sorab district.

(c) PTA Approached concerned departments of GoP to obtain updated instructions / review on subject matter on 29th December 2016 , 8th February 2017, 28th June 2019 and 6th April 2020. MoI may be approached to provide necessary input, whether Kalat and Sorab districts are suitable to reinstate 3G and 4G services.

Moreover, following steps have been taken to improve the internet services in Balochistan:

- i. PTCL has been instructed to prepare a plan, to extend broadband services in few districts of Balochistan where data services are not available. The same will be implemented in near future.
- ii. Special projects of laying Optical Fiber Cable under USF in Balochistan are under progress, which are primarily meant for enhancement of high-speed broadband services beside further increase in reach of voice services facilities which are already available in entire area.

115. ***Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb:**

Will the Minister for Aviation Division be pleased to state:

- (a) *the income earned from the PIA Roosevelt Hotel, America during the last two years; and*
- (b) *the head-wise detail of total amount spent on it?*

Minister for Aviation Division (Mr. Ghulam Sarwar Khan): (a) The net income earned by the Roosevelt Hotel for the last three years are as follows:

Year	Net Income in US\$ (Million)
2017	2.447
2018	3.164
2019	(1.495)

116. **Admissibility is being reconsidered.**

117. ***Mr. James Iqbal:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state whether the Government is taking steps to enforce uniform education curriculum in the country; if so, the time by which the same would be made possible?

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): Keeping in view the prevailing disparity in our education system and in line with the vision of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, National Curriculum Council, Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training has initiated the coordination in development of Single National Curriculum (SNC) in the country with active participation of all federating units and other relevant stakeholders. The process of development of SNC is being carried out in three phases. In the first phase SNC for grade Pre-I to V has been completed. The documents of SNC are available on the Ministry's website.

At present, model textbooks are being developed by the authors who have been selected through an open competition.

Single National Curriculum (SNC) Phase-I for Grade Pre-I to V, uniform curriculum at primary level will be implemented throughout the country from March 2021. In 2nd phase SNC for Grade 6 to 8 will be implemented throughout Pakistan by March 2022 and for 9 to 12 by March 2023.

118. ***Sardar Ayaz Sadiq:**

Will the Minister for National Heritage and Culture be pleased to state:

- (a) *steps taken by the Division to prepare subject-wise list of titles of all laws and rules made thereunder with reference to the business allocated to the said Division and its attached departments under the Rules of Business, 1973;*
- (b) *present status of the above and provide subject-wise list of titles of said Laws/Rules;*
- (c) *whether it is a fact that steps have been taken by said Division to consolidate and amend said Laws/Rules to keep pace with changes in Society; if so, detail of the same; if not, the reasons thereof;*
- (d) *whether it is also a fact that steps have been taken by said Division to determine anomalies, inconsistencies and difficulties in the administration and implementation of said Laws and Rules; if so, provide copy of latest post legislative scrutiny made by said Division; and*
- (e) *names of offices/branches appointed/designated thereof?*

Minister for National Heritage and Culture (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood):

NATIONAL HERITAGE & CULTURE DIVISION

After devolution of Ministry of Culture, M/o National Heritage & Integration was created on 26 October 2011. M/o National Heritage & Integration merged with M/o Information & Broadcasting on 7 June 2013. Ministry of Information Broadcasting and National Heritage was bifurcated into two separate Divisions *i.e.* National History & Literary Heritage Division & Information & Broadcasting Division on 5 January 2016. Renamed as Ministry of Information, Broadcasting, National History & Literary Heritage on 28 August 2017. Recently, the Federal Cabinet re-organized the Ministry/ Division and placed the National History & Literary Heritage Division under Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training and re-named as Ministry of Federal Education, Professional Training, National History & Literary Heritage consisting of (i) Federal Education & Professional Training Division and (ii) National History & Literary Heritage Division on 19th July, 2019. The Federal Government on 10th, April 2020 renamed this Division as National Heritage & Culture Division.

Functions:

This Division Executes:

International Agreements and assistance in the field of archaeology, national museums and historical monuments declared to be of national importance.

This Division supervises the administrative matters of officers and officials of following departments:

1. Quaid-e-Azam Papers Wing and Quaid-e-Azam Academy.
2. Pakistan Academy of Letters, Islamabad.
3. National Language Authority, Islamabad, Urdu Dictionary Board, Karachi and Urdu Science Board, Lahore.
4. National and other languages used for official purposes.
5. Quaid-e-Azam Academy, Karachi.
6. Aiwan-i-Iqbal and Iqbal Academy Pakistan, Lahore.
7. Quaid-e-Azam Mazar Management Board (QMMB), Karachi.
8. Quaid-e-Azam Memorial Fund (Quaid-e-Azam Mazar Management Board).
9. Naming of institutions in the name of Quaid-e-Azam and other high and distinguished personages.
10. National Library of Pakistan, Islamabad.
11. National Academy of Performing Arts (NAPA).
12. National Museum of Pakistan (NMP).

(a) Following Laws/ Rules are administered by the Departments/ Organizations mentioned against each under National Heritage & Culture Division

- (i) Pakistan Academy of Letters Act-2013. Service/ Recruitment Rules and financial rules of Pakistan Academy of Letters are under consideration Finance Division (Regulation Wing)
- (ii) National Institute of Folk and Traditional Heritage (Lok Virsa) Ordinance, 2002
- (iii) Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA) Act-1973
PNCA Employees Service Rules, 1994 (Amendment 1997).
PNCA Finance & Audit Rules, 2015.
PNCA Employees Contributory Fund Rules, 2015.

PNCA Statutory Rules, (SRO) notified on 28th June, 1981.

- (iv) Quaid-e-Azam Mazar (Protection and Maintenance) Ordinance 1971 Validated by validation of Law Act, 1975 (65 of 1975) by Quaid-e-Azam (Protection and Maintenance) (Amdt.) Act, 1976 (46 of 1976).
- (v) The Antiquities Act, 1975 (Act No. VII of 1976) administered by Department of Archaeology and Museums, Islamabad
Archaeological Excavation and Exploration Rules, 1978.
Acquisition of Antiquities Rules, 1989.
Dealing in Antiquities Rules, 1989.
Export of Antiquities Rules, 1979.
Immoveable Antiquities (Mining, Quarrying and blasting in restricted area Rules, 1979).
Cinematographical Filming of protected Antiquities Rules, 1980
- (vi) The Copyright Ordinance, 1962 [XXXIV of 1962] administered by National Library of Pakistan, Islamabad
Copyright Rules, 1967
International Copyright Order, 1968
Copyright Board (Procedure) Regulations, 1981
- (vii) The Iqbal Academy Ordinance, 1962 [XXVI of 1962]

(b) All above Acts/ Ordinances/ Rules at (a) are operational/ prevailing.

(c) Amendment in Pakistan Academy of Letters Act-2013 and Pakistan National Council of the Arts Act-1973 are under consideration in National Assembly Standing Committee on Federal Education and Professional Training, National Heritage & Culture Division.

(d) As above at (c) **(Annex A and B)**

(e) Concerned Heads of the Departments alongwith dealing Section of the Division.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

ISLAMABAD:
The 25th October, 2020

TAHIR HUSSAIN,
Secretary.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

“UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND THEIR REPLIES”**For Monday, the 26th October, 2020**43. **Mr. Muhammad Aslam Khan:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Computer Teachers (BPS-17) are working in various schools of the Federal Capital; if so, details of their dates of appointment and educational qualifications?

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): Yes, 64 Computer Teachers (BS-17) are working in various educational institutions under Federal Directorate of Education (FDE). The details (names, date of appointments and educational qualification) is placed at **Annex-A**.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

44. **Syed Agha Rafiullah:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Preston University Kohat takes part vastly in economical and quality education for easy access of higher education to citizens of Pakistan and other countries that results in playing positive role in National development; if so, number of transcripts and degrees attested by HEC of aforesaid University and its campuses thereto;*
- (b) whether it is also a fact that uniform monthly fee structure and financial aid programme at aforesaid university contributed widely in educational setup and in country economy;*

- (c) *if so, steps taken by HEC for policy formulation in consultation with Universities for reasonable and uniform monthly fee schedule in over all universities in the best interests of students and national development?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): (a) Preston University Kohat is a chartered University in private sector and established by the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Former NWFP) vide Ordinance No. LII of 2002.

The Preston University, Kohat opened illegal campuses at various locations in the country. Accordingly, the University was directed to close down it's all such illegal campuses and students' intake was stopped w.e.f July 01, 2007 in these campuses.

Owing to sub-standard quality education and non-compliance of HEC's directives, the University was bared to announce admissions at all levels (Undergraduates, Graduates and Doctoral) at principal seat at Kohat and its campuses w.e.f. October 05, 2016. However, the degrees of all legitimate students who studied from the authorized places are being attested by HEC as per provided list by the University.

Recently, after evaluation of the Principal Seat of the University, HEC has allowed admissions at undergraduate level at Kohat only.

So far, HEC attested **21506** transcripts and **22931** degrees of Preston University, Kohat and it campuses.

(b) As per statement of the Preston University, it gives the benefit to students to pay Semester Fees in easy monthly installments. The University also offer many scholarships and approximately 30% of enrolled students benefit from these scholarships.

(c) Universities [Public as well as Private] are corporate and self-governing entities as prescribed in their Act or Ordinance. Private universities generally have a specific stipulated authority to demand and receive such fees and other charges as it may determine. Moreover, considering that private universities are not eligible for regular public financial support and are required to generate their own resources for operational and development expenditure, and the fact that the quality, labs, instruction & infrastructure significantly vary across HEIs, HEC does not regulate fee of the Universities/HEIs.

45. **Mr. Abdul Shakoor:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether PTA being a regulatory body, has taken notice of distorted network and poor quality internet signals of cellular networks mobilink and Ufone in Sector I/14 Islamabad; if so, details thereof; and*
- (b) *steps taken or being taken by PTA in terms of directions to cellular networks to improve network/data issues and for provision of effective quality services to inhabitants of aforesaid area?*

Minister In-charge of the Cabinet Division: I-14 is the newly developing Sector of Islamabad.

(a) Mobilink (Jazz) and Ufone have no dedicated Cellular Sites installed in Sector I-14, Islamabad. Currently, Jazz is serving the area through its nearby site installed in the periphery of the sector. Whereas, adequate voice and data coverage of Zong (CMPak) and Telenor are available in the area.

(b) A total of 3 x sites have been planned by operators (i.e. 2 x sites of Jazz and 1 x site of Ufone) which are expected to be installed by the end of Q1 2021, to properly cover Sector I-14. Installation of these sites will result into provision of effective quality services to inhabitants of the said area.

46. **Dr. Nafisa Shah:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of the scholarships awarded to students on account of Ehasas Programme for the last two years alongwith year-wise breakup; and*
- (b) *the details of scholarships awarded to students of province of Sindh on account of Ehasas Programme for last two years with breakup?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): (a) A total of **50,762** (Male 29336 and Female 21426) scholarships were awarded under the project “Ehsaas Undergraduate Scholarship Programme (EUSP)” for the year 2019-20. 1st year ending in June 2020. 2nd of EUSP has recently been launched, online applications have been called since September 5, 2020 with deadline of October 30, 2020. The detail of award of scholarships 1st year is as under:

Province/ Region	Online Applications Received	Total Scholarships Awarded	Male	Female
Punjab	63,132	24,480	12,038	12442
Sindh	15,845	5,986	4,035	1,951
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	31,477	9,126	6,624	2,502
Balochistan	6,118	2,902	1,708	1,194
Federal	9,178	4,234	3,083	1,151
Azad Jammu & Kashmir	4,512	2,856	1,240	1,616
Gilgit-Baltistan	1,936	1,178	608	570
Total	132,198	50,762	29,336	21,426

(b) First year of EUSP, **5,986** Scholarships (Male 4,035 and Female 1,951) were awarded to students from Sindh province during 2019-20. However, the application online received from Sindh Province were low.

47. **Ch. Muhammad Hamid Hameed:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division be pleased to state:

- (a) *the village-wise details of persons of Tehsil Kallar Syedan District Rawalpindi, who enrolled themselves in Ehsaas Emergency Cash Programme through registration number 7181, which was launched by the Prime Minister in the context of the economic hardship being experienced by the vulnerable due to the ongoing corona virus crisis;*
- (b) *details of aforesaid persons who were already enrolled in BISP;*

- (c) *the details of aforesaid persons who were not actually enrolled in BISP and provided financial assistance of Rs.12000/-;*
- (d) *whether it is a fact that numerous persons were not granted such financial assistance and their applications were declined; if so, the details of such persons alongwith benchmark upon which their applications were declined; and*
- (e) *the details of data for which their applications were verified, and when such data was compiled by the relevant authorities?*

Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division: (a) Village wise summary of 4890 beneficiaries belonging to Tehsil Kallar Syedan, District Rawalpindi, who applied for Ehsaas Emergency Cash Programme through registration number 7181 is attached at **Annexure-A**.

(b) Out of 4890, only 3 beneficiaries were already enrolled in BISP as regular Kifaaalat beneficiaries.

(c) Village wise summary of 1545 beneficiaries belonging to Tehsil Kallar Syedan, District Rawalpindi, who were not enrolled earlier in BISP and provided financial assistance of Rs. 12,000/- under Ehsaas Emergency Cash Programme is attached at **Annexure-B**.

(d) Out of 4890, applications of 1794 persons were declined due to following reasons:-

Reason of Rejection	Count
Profile blocked	1
High PMT Score	2
Government Employee	1
dup-family-member-cat3-hit (marked by NADRA)	141
dup-family-member (Marked by NADRA)	764
Punjab block list (Marked by NADRA)	885
Total	1,794

Village wise summary of 1794 rejected persons belonging to Tehsil Kallar Syedan, District Rawalpindi, is attached at **Annexure-C**.

(e) Only those persons who applied through registration number 7181 were declared eligible, who fulfilled following criteria:-

- i. PMT score between 16.17 to 38 as per BISP database.
- ii. Doesn't fall in exclusion criteria approved by the BISP Board and Federal Cabinet. Brief on exclusion criteria is attached at **Annexure-D**.
- iii. Higher PMT score but their average 6 months phone bill is less than Rs.100/- as per data provided by PTA.

The data of such beneficiaries was compiled between April to July, 2020 under different batches and categories.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

48. **Syed Abrar Ali Shah:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state whether steps are being taken by the Government to implement a uniform curriculum across the country; if so, the time by which it will be made possible?

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): Keeping in view the prevailing disparity in our education system and in line with the vision of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, National Curriculum Council, Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training has initiated the coordination in development of Single National Curriculum (SNC) in the country with active participation of all federating units and other relevant stakeholders. The process of development of SNC is being carried out in three phases. In the first phase SNC for grade Pre-I to V has been completed. The documents of SNC are available on the Ministry's website.

At present, model textbooks are being developed by the authors who have been selected through an open competition. Single National Curriculum (SNC) Phase-I for Grade Pre-I to V, uniform curriculum at primary level will be implemented throughout the country from March 2021. In 2nd phase SNC for Grade 6 to 8 will be implemented throughout Pakistan by March 2022 and for 9 to 12 by March 2023.

49. **Mr. Salahuddin Ayubi:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total number alongwith details of students hailing from erstwhile FATA and Balochistan, to whom Scholarships have been granted or awarded by the HEC during the previous year, in respect of getting/pursuing medical education (MBBS); and*
- (b) *the name of district of domicile and serial number in merit list of each student alongwith the procedure of determination of merit?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): (a) A total of 300 (three hundred) scholarships have been awarded by the HEC to the students hailing from erstwhile FATA and Balochistan during the previous year (FY-2019-20), for medical education (MBBS). The detail is as under:

Description	Erstwhile FATA	Balochistan	Total
Placed on HEC Project MBBS Reserved Seat	102	100	202
Secured Admission by Self in MBBS	21	77	98
Total	123	177	300

(b) A consolidated list containing the name, domicile and aggregate Score of each student is attached **Annex-I**. The procedure of determination of merit is at **Annex-II**.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

50. **Mr. Muhammad Afzal Khokhar:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that Pakistan Tourism Development*

Corporation (PTDC) has been dissolved;

(b) if so, when was it dissolved and the reasons thereof?

Minister In-charge of the Cabinet Division: (a) PTDC has not been dissolved rather the Corporation has been restructured in view of the changed role of PTDC which will now be concentrating on the promotion and projection of Pakistan as an attractive tourist destination, research, data collection and data mining etc.

(b) As above.

51. **Syed Agha Rafiullah:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division be pleased to state:

(a) the province-wise total number of Langer Khanas which have been opened in the country including Islamabad; and

(b) the detail of total cost incurred thereon?

Minister In-charge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division: (a) Detail of province-wise total number of Langer Khanas which have been opened in the country including Islamabad is as under:

Province	City	No. of Langer Khanas
Punjab	Islamabad	02
	Lodhran	01
KPK	Swabi	01
	Peshawar	01
Sindh	Umarkot	01
Total		06

(b) There is no expenditure of the Government on establishment or operation of Langar Khanas. Government's role is only to facilitate in opening of Langar Khanas. Expenditure on necessary construction and operations is borne by Saylani Welfare Trust.

52. **Moulana Abdul Akbar Chitrali:**

Will the Minister for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names of English Newspapers in which the translation of the verses of Holy Quran is printed in old English alongwith the names of each such Newspaper with details and how many people understand old English in the country;*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to print the translation of the verses of the Holy Quran in existing simple English, instead of old one; and*
- (c) *the time by which instructions or directions will be issued to the newspapers in this regard?*

Minister for Information and Broadcasting (Syed Shibli Faraz): (a) The News, Islamabad publishes Holy Quran in old English (**Annex-A**). The population well versed with old English can be found from Statistics Division. However, in general it can be safely presumed that number of such people are negligible or non-existent.

(b) Government of Pakistan is not publisher or printer of any Newspaper in the country so the answer is in negative.

(c) The Press is free in the country to publish any material of their choice within the constitutional and legal framework. Media enjoys freedom as per constitutional guarantees and government is not supposed to give any advice which is against the spirit of democracy. The present government strictly adheres to the principles of free Press. However, the government has requested All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) which has owners of publications as its members, to advise member publications to adopt modern and easy English for publication of translation or Holy Quran in their Newspapers (**Annex-B**).

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

53. Disallowed an re-cinsideration.

54. **Mr. Asmatullah:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that hostel and transportation expenses are not being paid to the students who have been selected on scholarships under the Ehsaas programme in the International Islamic University; if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (b) *the names of the students who have been selected for awarding scholarships in this programme?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): (a) The Ehsaas Undergraduate Scholarship Programme (EUSP) covers full tuition fee, mandatory academic charges i.e. exam fee, laboratory, library, and degree fee. In addition to above, an amount of Rs.40,000 per annum also granted to students as stipend to meet miscellaneous expenditure viz. living, transportation, and other expenses.

(b) Total **925** (Nine hundred and twenty five) scholarships under EUSP were awarded to the students of International Islamic University, Islamabad. A consolidated list containing the names of students, fathers names, Programmes, Semester and gender is attached at **Annex-I**.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

55. **Mr. Asmatullah:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to refer to the Question No.17 replied on 14-09-2020 and to state:

- (a) *the province-wise names of Government medical colleges, in which quota has been allocated for the students hailing from Balochistan; and*
- (b) *the names, addresses and marks obtained in F.Sc and in respective test, of the students selected in the medical colleges on the HEC scholarships during the previous year?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): (a) The Province-wise names of Government medical colleges, in which quota has been allocated for the students hailing from Balochistan for the session 2019-20 under the project titled “Provision of Higher Education Opportunities for the students of Balochistan and FATA (Phase-II)” is attached at **Annex-I**.

(b) A consolidated list containing the name, City/District, Marks obtained in SSC, HSC, Test and aggregate marks of students selected in the medical colleges on the HEC Scholarships during the previous year is attached at **Annex-II**.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

56. **Ms. Nasiba Channa:**

Will the Minister for Climate Change be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of plastic bottles which are manufactured in Pakistan;*
- (b) the purposes for which such plastic is being used;*
- (c) the quantity of waste generated as result of these plastic bottles in Pakistan, annually;*
- (d) as to how/where this plastic waste is disposed of;*
- (e) whether burning of plastic is banned for its disposal;*
- (f) whether Pakistan’s number is appearing in the index of the such countries which are creating pollution from plastic; and*
- (g) what precautionary/protective measures are being taken by the Government for the above issue?*

Minister of state for climate Change (Ms. Zartaj Gul): (a) The production of plastics is undertaken by different industries. The exact data of industry / region wise may be sought from Ministry of Industries Production. As per current data available with MoCC 6 million, metric tons of plastics is produced in the country.

(b) The purpose of use of Plastic bottles are to store liquids such as water, soft drinks, motor oil, cooking oil, medicine, shampoo, milk, and ink. The size ranges from very small bottles to large carboys. Consumer blow molded containers often have integral handles or are shaped to facilitate grasping.

(c) About 250 million tons of garbage in Pakistan primarily consists of plastic bags, pet bottles and food scraps. 65% of waste that ends up on beaches along Pakistan's coast includes water bottles, caps, plastic bags, and packaging (Ref: WWF Pakistan).

Further details may be sought from Ministry of Industries and Production.

(d) The question does not pertain to Pak-EPA.

(e) Pak-EPA has not notified any regulations on banning of burning of such plastic. However, this Agency discourages the burning of the plastics made up of olefins due to its hazardous emissions at larger extent.

(f) There is no such authentic data available in Pak-EPA that ranks the Pakistan in the index of the countries which are creating pollution from plastic.

(g) As far as Islamabad Capital Territory is concerned, Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (Pak-EPA) notified the Regulations titled the Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency Ban on (Manufacturing, Import, Sale, Purchase, Storage and Usage) Polythene Bags Regulations, 2019 under **S.R.O. 92(KE)/ 2019**.

These Regulations are aimed for a complete ban on manufacture, sale, use, purchase, trade, supply, store and distribute on any kind of single use plastic bags in ICT.

To facilitate implementation of the Regulation, Pak-EPA has notified four teams for City Circle, Industrial Circle, Rural Circle and Saddar Circle of ICT under clause "b" of sub-Regulation (1) of Regulation 2 read with Section 17 of PEPA'97. Each team is composed of the officials from Ministry of Climate Change, Pak-EPA, ICT Administration, Directorate of Municipal Administration and co-opted member from Media.

However, as far as use of plastic bottle is concerned, the single use plastic bottles has been discouraged on government level and eradicated the use of plastic bottles from the offices of Ministry of Climate Change and its attached departments. Further, the use of plastic bottles is also eliminated by the Senate Standing Committee in their meetings. Whereas, there is no legal framework in place for the banning on plastic bottles.

Further, Pak-EPA disseminate & information regarding the environmental damage caused by plastic bags and other anthropogenic activities through;

- Print media (newspapers advertisements and articles, magazines, flyers/brochures etc.)
- Electronic media (programmes on Radio Pakistan and News Channels)
- Academia (delivering lectures in schools, colleges)
- Arranging awareness programmes via workshops / seminars and
- Distribution of informative-flyers among the public in industrial areas and commercial markets of Islamabad

However, as far as use of plastic bottle is concerned, the single use plastic bottles has been discouraged on government level and eradicated the use of plastic bottles from the offices of Ministry of Climate Change and its attached departments. Further, the use of plastic bottles are also eliminated by the Senate Standing Committee in their meetings. Whereas, there is no legal framework in place for the banning on plastic bottles.

57. Mr. Salahuddin Ayubi:

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that fourteen years education (Graduation) is prescribed for some jobs; if so, the students who sought admission in Bachelor of Science Programme, can apply for this job after completing four semesters;*
- (b) *if so, the procedure for taking (equivalence certificate) of four semesters; if not, the reasons thereof; and*

- (c) *whether it is not the violation of basic human rights of education, the above students can not apply even after acquiring fourteen years education?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): (a) The qualification criteria for any specific job is determined by the employers, and HEC has no role therein. However, instances have been observed in some jobs offered by the Public Service Commission, where fourteen years education is required. The students having associate degree comprising four semesters acquired after twelve years of schooling are eligible for the jobs where 14 years qualification is required.

(b) Equivalence of degree is granted upon completion of degree program and as per Standing Operating Procedures (SOPs). Therefore, incomplete qualification cannot be equated with any degree program level.

(c) The students can apply as elaborated in Para-a. For example Associated Degree holders are allowed to apply for the post where 14 years education is required.

58. **Syed Mehmood Shah:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to refer to the Un-Starred Question No.47 replied on 13-02-2020 and to state:

- (a) *whether large scale irregularities have been made during the appointments of Lecturer Archeology; if so, the reasons thereof;*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that Higher Education Commission (HEC) has directed to make these appointments afresh alongwith the reasons for not implementing the rules of procedure;*
- (c) *whether HEC has taken notice of it; and*
- (d) *whether any third division holder has also been recruited; if so, the details thereof?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): (a) The University of Balochistan (UOB) Quetta informed that only three recruitments have been made since July, 2017 for the post of Lecturer Archeology. Out of which, two candidates have M.Phil/MS

(18 Years) Qualification, whereas only one candidate has Master (16 years). The UOB did not observe the revised faculty appointment criteria prescribed by HEC in the recruitment process. Moreover, syndicate of UOB in its 88th meeting deferred adoption of new/revised criteria for the period of two years.

(b) Yes, Higher Education Commission (HEC) vide letter i No.5-2(FAC)/QAD/2019/HEC/33 dated February 12, 2020 communicated to the UOB to stop the recruitment process against the advertisement dated November 03, 2017 (Copy attached at **Annex-I**).

(c) HEC has already asked the university to cancel the said recruitment process and re-advertise the said positions with revised faculty appointment criteria. However, the syndicate of UOB has deferred the adoption of new faculty appointment criteria for two years.

(d) As communicated by the UOB, No candidate having third division in his career has been shortlisted or appeared in the NTS Screening Test for the post of Lecturer in the discipline of Archeology, advertised by University of Balochistan.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

59. Mr. Muhammad Aslam Khan:

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to refer to the Un-Starred Question No.06 replied on 16-09-2020 and to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Commission has already given approval for such increment and the Executive Director is now competent authority to issue notification for increment of the regular employees (BS-1 to 17) which is due since 2013 on account of award of higher scales;*
- (b) the detail of record of meeting minutes and agenda items regarding placement of above matter, since 2013; what is the need for seeking approval again;*
- (c) whether it is required to place the increment matter again before the Commission; if so, will it not be a futile exercise and waste of time;*

- (d) *whether it is correct that so many meetings of Commission have been held but the aforesaid matter is not kept on agenda;*
- (e) *what action is yet taken by the Ministry to make responsible accountable; and*
- (f) *the time by which notification of increment will be issued?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Mr. Shafqat Mahmood): (a) No, the Commission has not approved award of such increment.

(b) The minutes of the 28th meeting of the commission are attached at **Annex-I**. The Commission has not approved award of such increment.

(c) This is not matter of increment but placement in higher grade which was held in abeyance by the Commission. As such, matter may be reported to the Commission for its further guidance.

(d) Since November, 2019 only two **online meetings** of the Commission were held on dated June 12-13, 2020 and September 4-5, 2020 for considering strategic and emergent issues concerning higher education sector.

(e) Commission is the Competent Authority in this regard, matter will be placed for its consideration.

(f) The decision of the Commission in the matter will be implemented as and when taken.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

ISLAMABAD:
The 25th October, 2020.

TAHIR HUSSAIN,
Secretary.