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Economic ministers in embassies, Govt invites Nominations

ISLAMABAD: The government has invited nominations from ministries, divisions, provincial governments, AJK and Gilgit-Baltistan for posting of economic ministers in Pakistani embassies in Washington, Tokyo, Beijing and London till October 30, 2019.

Finance Division has asked all the ministries and divisions as well as provincial governments, AJK and Gilgit-Baltistan to send nominations of BS-20 and BS-21 officers latest by October 30, 2019 to the Finance Ministry so that vacant posts of economic ministers in the embassies of Pakistan in Washington, Tokyo, Beijing and London could be filled.

The office memorandum sent to the ministries, provincial governments, AJK and GB stated that each post would be of three years and a written test of the applicants would be conducted by Lahore University of Management Sciences or the Institute of Business Administration, Karachi. It added that the candidates qualifying the written test will be interviewed by a committee and applications/nominations would be considered only of those officers whose applications are received through their parent departments within the stipulated timeframe, added Finance Division.

As per eligibility criteria, all government officers, including occupational groups of the federal government must have served for 3-5 years on relevant positions in the divisions and departments of the federal government – Finance Division and its attached departments, Economic Affairs Division, Revenue Division, Privatization Division, Board of Investment, Planning Development & Reform Division, Commerce Division, Textile Industries & Production or in the departments of provincial governments/AJK/ Gilgit-Baltistan related to Finance, Planning and Development, and Industries. The upper age limit is 55 years on the closing date to submission of applications.

The applicants must have good knowledge of International Financial Institutions (IFIs) – the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank; issues of concern for Pakistan like the Indus Water Treaty and the IMF Programmes; USAID funding in Pakistan; US capital market; changing trade dynamics owing to the new US trade policy and its implications for the world and Pakistan; and US-Pakistan trade balance and issues.

The job description of the economic minister at Washington would include; (i) financial advice on administrative expenditure of the Pakistan's embassy in USA including the Consulate General, the permanent Mission at the USA and Pakistan Embassy of Canada; (ii) the economic minister will keep himself abreast of the political economy of the United States and send regular/periodic briefs to Finance Division on all relevant developments/issues; (iii) to maintain liaison with the US government departments, state departments including USAID, the commerce, treasury and agriculture departments, the World Bank and the IMF, Exim Bank and the secretariat of the US special fund; (iv) to liaise with different relevant national/international NGOs based in the US like the Transparency International, Centre for Clean Air Policy (CCAP), Brookings Institute and other think tanks to improve coordination and understanding for Pakistan aimed at better outcomes for the country; (v) to play a role in negotiation of free trade and preferential trade agreements and accords covering investments, double taxation avoidance and other financial services; (vi) to help the government of Pakistan in maintaining a close liaison with institutional investors in the international capital markets as well as the rating agencies based in the US; (vii) answering enquiries of commercial and economic nature; (viii) promotion of trade and investment in all sectors of the economy; (ix) representation at international conferences held in the US, the General Assembly of the UN, Special Fund, the Commission of International Commodity Trade, International Cotton Advisory Committee and the annual meetings of IBRD, IFC and IMF; and (x) and promotion of Pak-US economic ties, etc.