

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

to be asked at a sitting of the Senate to be held on

Wednesday, the 22nd April, 2009

@8. ***Hafiz Rasheed Ahmad:** (Notice received on 11-02-2009 at 09:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Housing and Works be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the boundary wall of F.G. Model School No.4, G-7/2, Islamabad is incomplete, if so, the time by which the same will be completed?

Mr. Rehmatullah Kakar: The boundary wall of F.G. Model School No .4, G-7/2, Islamabad has already been completed during Feb, 2009.

19. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mahmood:** (Notice received on 30-01-2009 at 13:00 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Tourism be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of tourism spots in Northern Areas;*
- (b) the estimated number of local and Foreign tourists who visited the Northern Areas during the last five years;*
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to promote tourism in Northern Areas; and*
- (d) the amount spent by the Government for the development of the said spots during the last five years?*

Mr. Atta-ur-Rehman: (a) Name of tourism spots in Northern Areas are as under:—

-
- @Transferred from the Cabinet Division.
- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Besham | 13. Satpara Lake |
| 2. Barseen | 14. Deosai Plain |
| 3. Chattar Plain | 15. Khaplu |
| 4. Chilas | 16. Chitral |
| 5. Gilgit | 17. Kalash |
| 6. Rama Lake | 18. Mastuj |
| 7. Fairy Meadows | 19. Bunni, |
| 8. Gupis | 20. Tatta Pani |
| 9. Phandar | 21. Hunza |
| 10. Shandur | 22. Concordia |
| 11. Astak | 23. Hushe |

12. Skardu

24. Khunjerab Pass

(b) Number of local and foreign tourists who visited the Northern Areas during the last five years are as under:—

(In million)

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Estimated local tourists visited Northern Areas	0.662	0.677	0.694	0.712	0.728
Estimated Foreign Tourists visited Northern Areas	0.0039	0.0048	0.0054	0.0050	0.0049

(c) Following steps have been taken by the government to promote tourism in Northern Areas:—

1. Government has completed 13 tourism projects with an investment of Rs.137.293 million. Besides a scheme of Tourist Facilitation Centre (TFC) at Gilgit was recently approved by DDWP meeting held on 30-12-2008 at a cost of Rs.25.588 million.
2. Government of Pakistan has decided to continue reduction royalty fee during the calendar year 2007 as per detail given below:—
 - (i) Zero royalty fee for Peaks up to 6500-M during the 2007.
 - (ii) 10% royalty fee on mountains situated in Chitral, Gilgit and Gizar except on Spantik/Golden Peak.
 - (iii) 05% royalty fee on all peaks during winter season (December-February).
 - (iv) 50% discount on royalty fee on all peaks except as mentioned in (i) and (ii) above.
3. In order to promote tourism in Northern Areas, Chief Secretary, Northern Areas has been authorized to issue trekking permits to Chinese trekking parties entering Northern Areas through Sust Border. Notification in this respect was issued on 15-12-2007.
4. Decision has been made to transfer 80% of Environment Clean-up/Pollution fee (being deposited by the foreign expeditions) to Environment Department, Northern Areas. Accordingly an amount of Rs.1.00 million has been allocated in CFY budgeted for the purpose.

(d) During the last five years a sum of Rs.10.578 million has been released on the development of tourism projects in the Northern Areas.

20. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mahmood:** (Notice received on 31-01-2009 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources be pleased to state:

- (a) *the profit earned by Sui Northern Gas Pipelines during the last five years; and*
- (b) *the amount paid as salary, allowances etc. to the employees of Sui Northern Gas Pipelines during the said period?*

Dr. Asim Hussain: (a) The Profit earned by Sui Northern Gas Pipelines during the last five years is as follows:—

Years 30th June	Profit After Tax (Rs.000')
2008	2,496,690
2007	2,678,643
2006	3,722,244
2005	2,735,978
2004	2,297,478

(b) The amount paid as salary, allowances etc, to the employees of Sui Northern Gas Pipelines during the said period is as follows:—

Years 30th June	Salaries and Allowances (Rs.000')
2008	3,726,305
2007	3,542,991
2006	3,334,296
2005	2,894,445
2004	2,914,930

21 . ***Dr. Muhammad Ismail Buledi:** (Notice received on 31-01-2009 at 09:05 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Zakat and Ushr be pleased to state the amount of Zakat disbursed during the last two years with province-wise break up and the amount of Zakat funds lapsed during that period?

Mr. Noor-ul-Haq Qadri: Disbursement of Zakat is with the Provinces. On the basis of information gathered from all concerned, a statement showing province-wise Zakat disbursement position for the years 2006-07 and 2007-08 is Annexed.

22. ***Dr. Muhammad Ismail Buledi:** (Notice received on 31-01-2009 at 09:05 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Religious Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of tour operators to which quota was granted for Hajj 2008 indicating also the quota of Hajj granted in each case with province-wise break up; and
- (b) the number of the said operators which have been black listed with province-wise break up?

Syed Hamid Saeed Kazmi: (a) For Hajj 2008. 590 out of 594 Hajj Group Organizers were enrolled. However, 582 HGOs availed a quota of 79,543 seats. List of HGOs enrolled for Hajj 2008 is placed at Annex-I. Province-wise break up of allocation of quota to the Hajj Group Organizers is as under:—

Province	Quota allocated	Number of Tour Operators
Punjab including ICT	32,887	252
NWFP	13,699	90
Sindh	24,004	167
Balochistan	6,165	50
Northern Areas	121	02
AJK	640	07
FATA	2,027	14
Total:	79,543	582

(b) No HGO was blacklisted. However, five HGOs were dropped by Saudi Government, three HGOs were dropped by Ministry of Religious Affairs and four HGOs withdrew at their own. Their list is placed at Annex-II. Province-wise detail of these HGOs is as under:—

Province	Number of Hajj Group Organizers
including ICT	03
Sindh	05
Balochistan	03
AJK	01
Total:	12

Punjab

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

23. ***Dr. Muhammad Ismail Buledi:** (Notice received on 02-02-2009 at 09:35 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Water and Power be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an agreement has been signed with Iran for the provision of electricity to the 31 villages of District Panjgoor, Makran, situated on Pakistan - Iran border, if so, the present status of work on that project?

Raja Pervaiz Ashraf: The agreement for supply of Power from Iran to villages in Paroom area of District Panjgur and Zamuran in District Kech near Pakistan Iran border was signed on 09-03-2006. The work was to be completed by September 2006. This agreement envisaged electrification of 31-villages in the area at an estimated cost of Rs.98.379 million. The work however could not be executed due to non availability of funds.

24. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mahmood:** (Notice received on 02-02-2009 at 08:45 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Water and Power be pleased to state:

- (a) *the quantum / volume of electricity being generated through coal and Hydel resources in the country; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to produce more electricity through alternative sources like solar, wind energy?*

Raja Pervaiz Ashraf: (a) *Hydel.*—The year-wise electricity generated from existing Hydel Power Stations:—

Year	Electricity generated (Million KWH)
2003-04	27,372,000
2004-05	25,671,049
2005-06	30,854,517
2006-07	31,925,375
2007-08	28,670,191
2008-09(upto Jan.09)	17,756,062

Coal.—The year-wise electricity generated from FBC Lakhra Power Station:

Year	Electricity generated (Million KWH)
2003-04	197.56
2004-05	174.89
2005-06	128.96
2006-07	136.14
2007-08	136.35
2008-09(upto Jan.09)	84.02

(b) The Government of Pakistan is actively pursuing the development of renewable energy sources for power generation.

Wind.—AEDB is aggressively facilitating the private sector in the development of wind power projects.

- ✱ 22 projects are in the pipeline at various stages of development.
- ✱ Out of these, 11 investors have so far completed their feasibility studies.
- ✱ 06 IPPs have acquired Generation License from NEPRA.
- ✱ 03 IPPs have been awarded tariff by NEPRA.
- ✱ M/s. Zorlu Enerji is currently engaged in finalizing the installation of 06 MW phase-1 of their 50 MW project, which would be commissioned in March, 2009.
- ✱ Successful realization of these 22 wind projects will result in adding 1100 MW to the National Grid with in the next 3-5 years.

Solar

Rural Electrification.—AEDB is also carrying out village electrification under the Rural electrification program, and has so far electrified more than 3600 houses in over 61 villages in Pakistan, with more than 3000 houses in Sindh AEDB has initiated the electrification of another 300 villages in the Balochistan province.

AEDB has also initiated a PC-I for the development of a 50 MW solar thermal power project.

Solar Water Pumping

Pilot project of converting tube wells to solar energy with World Bank funding has been initiated. Successful implementation of the pilot will result in up scaling this project to an amount of US \$ 250 million.

Development of Solar Products.—AEDB is facilitating Private Sector for manufacturing of RE products like Solar Geysers, Solar based LED Lights, Solar Lanterns, Solar Modules, etc. in the country.

Solar Street Lights.—AEDB has facilitated private sector for implementing project of solar street lights in the country. Several solar street lighting projects have been completed including installation of solar street lights in Gwadar, Liaquat Bagh, Rangers check posts in Balochistan. AEDB has installed demonstration Solar Street/Search Lights at the parking lot of Prime Minister's Secretariat. A PC-I regarding the conversion of outdoor/peripheral lights of Prime Minister's Secretariat and Prime Minister House has been submitted to PWD.

Solar Module Manufacturing Factory.—With AEDB's facilitation, M/s. Akhter Solar (Pvt) Ltd, had established a solar module manufacturing factory of 03 MW/year capacity in Hattar.

Apart from these initiatives of AEDB, the private sector has also carried out solar installations with the facilitation of AEDB.

Bio Mass

M/s. Clean Energy Development Ltd. of New Zealand is pursuing the developing of a 25 MW power project in Landhi cattle Colony, Karachi using bio mass. The project is anticipated to be completed by 2010. The pilot phase of 250 kW has been completed.

Two Power Purchase agreements have been signed by PESCO and FESCO for purchase of electricity generated through two bio mass power projects of 15 MW and 8 MW, respectively.

Micro and Mini Hydro Projects

Eight micro/mini hydro projects having a cumulative capacity of 80 MW have also been initiated with the funding from Asian Development Bank. These projects are being implemented in Punjab (5) and NWFP (3).

AEDB is also working to install 103 micro hydro power plants at Chitral and other places in the Northern areas. A project Document, approved by UNDP, is under review of EAD in this regard.

Feasibility studies for 25 additional sites in Northern Areas initiated by ADB funding.

25. ***Prof. Muhammad Ibrahim Khan:** (Notice received on 04-02-2009 at 11:25 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Water and Power be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to up-grade the 50 KV transformer installed adjacent to Middle School and Bilal Masjid in village Darkali Sher Shahi, Tehsil Kallar Syedan, District Rawalpindi, if so, when?

Raja Pervaiz Ashraf: It is intimated that proposal for augmentation of existing 50 KVA Transformer to 100 KVA alongwith 01 No. LT structure has been approved for Middle School and Bilal Masjid in village Darkali Sher Shahi, Tehsil Kallar Syedan, District Rawalpindi. The augmentation work has been completed on 27-02-2009.

26. ***Prof. Khurshid Ahmed:** (Notice received on 06-02-2009 at 11:55 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Housing and Works be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to revive the Islamabad New City Project launched in 1995 or to compensate the affectees of that project, if so, its details?

Mr. Rehmatullah Kakar: The case is subjudice in the Lahore High Court. In pursuance of the decision of Lahore High Court, the affectees will be compensated.

27. ***Prof. Khurshid Ahmed:** (Notice received on 09-02-2009 at 11:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Water and Power be pleased to state:

- (a) *the dates and rate of increase or decrease in the tariff of electricity for domestic and commercial consumers in the country since November, 2007;*
- (b) *the rate of recovery from the consumers during this period;*
- (c) *the amount of electricity bills outstanding against the government and semi government departments, oil and gas companies, banks, financial institutions and big companies for the last two years, separately in each case;*
- (d) *the steps taken by the government to recover the said amount; and*
- (e) *the steps taken by the Government to ensure in time recovery in future of the amount of electricity bills from government and big commercial organizations in the country?*

Raja Pervaiz Ashraf: (a) The reply in case of PEPCO is as follows*:—

- (b)
- (c) Outstanding amount as on 31-01-09

Rs. in Million

Govt. /Semi Govt. Deptts.	21,902.000
Oil and Gas Companies	5.682
Banks	16.035
Financial institutions	0.2
Big Companies	*312.97

*Out of 312.97 million, 300.35 million is due to Court cases filed by companies against tariff + withholding tax. Usually banks, big companies are regular payees and do not default.

- (d) *
- Launched special recovery campaign by formulating recovery teams at sub-division, division and circle level.
 - Monitoring of recovery through designated monitors at company headquarter level.
 - Interaction with the drawing and disbursing Authority of Government department for payment of arrear bill.
 - Timely and correct delivery of bills to respective consumers.
 - Monitoring the payment of big consumers on the due date.
 - Delivery of equipment removal notices to the consumer and pursuance for payment of outstanding dues.

- ✱ Pursuance of litigation cases & its settlement out of court on merit.
 - ✱ Payment at source is also received from Govt. departments. Even then Govt. connections are defaulters.
 - ✱ Field formations are directed to use tool of disconnection, where it is necessary.
 - ✱ Incentives for waiver off late payment surcharge are also given to the Government defaulting departments, if they clear the outstanding dues upto 30th, June of each year.
- (e) ✱ Joint Secretary (CF) Finance Division. GoP, Islamabad and Secretary Finance, Finance Departments of Provincial Governments, are regularly kept informed on monthly basis about the billing and the amount required to be paid by the concerned department.
- ✱ Meetings with Chief Secretaries/Finance Secretaries of the provinces have been held time and again for recovery of outstanding electricity dues.
 - ✱ Reconciliation of billing and outstanding arrear of all Govt. departments to ensure correct billing & its recovery.
 - ✱ Monitoring of recovery as special campaign through recovery team at Regional / Circle, Division & Sub Division level.
 - ✱ Frequent review conference at company level to monitor recovery from running / permanent disconnected and deferred cases.
 - ✱ Interaction with the drawing and disbursing Authority of Government department for payment of arrear bill.
 - ✱ Delivery of equipment removal notices to the consumer and pursuance for payment of outstanding dues.
 - ✱ Pursuance of litigation cases & its settlement out of court on merit.
 - ✱ Monitoring the payment of big consumers on the due date.
- (b) The rate of recovery from the consumers during this period:—

Period	Amount Billed Amount in Millions	Amount Recovered	%age of recovery
July-March 2008-09	50,323	44,991	89.4%
July-March 2007-08	41,011	36,748	89.6%

(c) The amount of electricity bills outstanding against the Government and Semi Government departments, oil and gas companies, banks, financial institution and big companies for the last two years, separately in each case:—

Department Name	No. of connection	Balance dues upto Feb, 2009
Federal, Provincial Government departments and others	10,760	3,095,660,296
Karachi Water and Sewerage Board	270	6,803,622,396
Grant Total:	11,030	9,899,282,692

(List of departments is attached)

(d), (e) as per details given against each.

28. ***Hafiz Rasheed Ahmad:** (Notice received on 10-02-2009 at 14:10 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Zakat and Ushr be pleased to state whether any amount from Zakat funds has been provided to the Internally Displaced Persons from FATA and NWFP due to the ongoing military operations in the said areas, if so, the amount provided to them so far and the procedure adopted for the disbursement of that amount?

Mr. Noor-ul-Haq Qadri: There is no such provision in the Zakat and Ushr Ordinance, 1980, therefore, no amount of Zakat funds has been allocated in Zakat budget for internally displaced persons of FATA and NWFP.

29. ***Hafiz Rasheed Ahmad:** (Notice received on 10-02-2009 at 14:10 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Zakat and Ushr be pleased to state whether any amount from Zakat funds is provided for medical treatment of poor patients, if so, the amount allocated and utilized out of those funds for that purpose during the current financial year?

Mr. Noor-ul-Haq Qadri: Rs.822.542 million have been allocated in Zakat budget during the current financial year 2008-09 for treatment of deserving patients. Out of this, an amount of Rs.502.136 million has been utilized.

30. ***Hafiz Rasheed Ahmad:** (Notice received on 11-02-2009 at 09:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to supply natural gas to village Matore, Tehsil Kahuta, District Rawalpindi, if so, when?

Dr. Asim Hussain: No, there is no proposal under consideration to supply gas to village Matore, Tehsil Kahuta, District Rawalpindi.

31. ***Mr. Sardar Ali Khan:** (Notice received on 01-04-2009 at 11:55 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Water and Power be pleased to state:

- (a) *the schedule of load shedding for urban and rural areas in the country; and*
- (b) *whether there is any difference in the duration of load shedding amongst the four provinces?*

Raja Pervaiz Ashraf: (a) There is a difference of two hours in the duration of load shedding in the urban and rural areas. The schedule of load shedding for urban and rural areas respectively in the country during the last 06-months is given hereunder:—

11-09-08 till 03-10-08	There was no load shedding in the country.	
04-10-08 till 31-10-08	There was maximum of 4 — 6 hours of load shedding, which extended to 8 — 10 hours uptill 26-10-2008, when it was again reduced to 4 — 6 hours till 31-10-2008.	
After 31-10-08 till 4-12-08.	There was no load shedding.	
After 04-12-08 01-2009	A maximum of 8—10 hours load shedding was carried out in the country through PEPCO managed DISCOs/Companies while the large industry was shed for 04 hours daily.	till 31-
After 31-01-09 till 18-03-2009 After 18-03-09 till date	There was no load shedding. A maximum of 5—7 hours load shedding is being carried out in the country through PEPCO managed DISCOs/Companies, while the industry is only being shed for 4—6 hours.	

(b) There is no difference in the duration of load shedding amongst the four provinces except for Balochistan, where duration of load shedding for rural areas is some times more due to system constraints in that particular area.

32. ***Mr. Muhammad Zahid Khan:** (Notice received on 07-04-2009 at 11:25 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Water and Power be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the government to construct a Dam for Hydel Power generation in Kaghan, if so, its details; and*

(b) *whether it is a fact that the provincial government of NWFP has not been consulted on the said project, if so, its reasons?*

Raja Pervaiz Ashraf: (a) Presently no Dam project is under consideration/implementation by WAPDA in Kaghan.

However Suki Kinari Hydropower Project on river Kunhar for 840 MW power is being taken up in private sector through PPIB.

(b) Government of NWFP is fully aware of this development. Hydropower projects above 50 MW come under the purview of PPIB/Federal Government.

ISLAMABAD :
The 21st April, 2009.

RAJA MUHAMMAD AMIN,
Secretary.

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“UNSTARRED QUESTION AND ITS REPLY”

For Wednesday, the 22nd April, 2009

7. **Prof. Khurshid Ahmed:** (Notice received on 11-02-2009 at 10:50 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Water and Power be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that Government has launched a programme for distributing 10 million energy saver bulbs to consumers, if so, the number of bulbs distributed so far with district wise break up indicating also the price/cost of the said bulbs;*
- (b) *the date on which tenders were invited for procurement of those bulbs; and*
- (c) *the estimated cost of the said project?*

Raja Pervaiz Ashraf: The programme for purchase of 10 million Energy Saver bulbs is under active consideration through the World Bank's EDTIP Loan's Energy Efficiency Component for HESCO, MEPCO, LESCO & IESCO. Additionally, PEPCO is also discussing, the issue of procurement with ADB.

(b) Tender for the purchase of 10 million Self Blasted Compact Fluorescent (Energy Saver) Lamps was initially advertised in the newspapers, which was to be opened on 03-05-2008, but in order to arrange funding through World Bank and ADB, as explained above. it was delayed.

(c) The estimated cost of the purchase of 10 million Energy Saver Lamps is about Rs. 1 Billion.

ISLAMABAD :
The 21st April, 2009.

RAJA MUHAMMAD AMIN,
Secretary.