

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

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

Thursday, the 6th March, 2014

@68. ***Mr. Baz Muhammad Khan:** (Notice received on 06-02-2014 at 09:30 am)

Will the Minister Incharge of the Prime Minister’s Office be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some sections / staff have been transferred from the Prime Minister’s Office to various Ministries / Divisions alongwith the budget under the Economy Drive, if so, the amount saved by the Prime Minister’s Office under that drive?

Minister Incharge of the Prime Minister’s Office: Yes. Public Affairs & Grievances Wing alongwith work has been transferred to Parliamentary Affairs Division, whereas Policy Research Wing was abolished. Officers/staff declared surplus are placed at the disposal of Surplus Pool of the Establishment Division for posting in various Ministries / Divisions and allocation in Budget reduced under Economic Drive. The detail of amount saved in Budget 2013-14 is as under:-

Rs. in Million.

Prime Minister’s Office (Public)		
Total approved budget	Budget reduced	Amount saved
484.338	395.870	88.468
Prime Minister’s Office (Internal)		
368.704	358.744	9.960

@ Transferred from Establishment Division.

73. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:** (Notice received on 04-12-2013 at 09:30 am)

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

- (a) *the quantum of electricity presently being produced from furnace oil;*
- (b) *the names of power plants in the country which are using furnace oil for production of electricity; and*
- (c) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to convert the said plants to coal, if so, its details?*

Khawaja Muhammad Asif: (a) The quantum of electricity, presently being produced from Furnace Oil is 3,330 MW (as on 19-02-2014) (Details are placed at **Annexure-I**).

(b) The names of Power Plants in the country which are using Furnace Oil for production of electricity are Jamshoro (GENCO-I) and Muzaffargarh (GENCO-III) (Details are placed at **Annexure-II** and names of IPPs which use RFO's are at **Annex-III**).

(c) Government of Pakistan has planned to convert unit No. 3 & 4, GENCO-I TPS Jamshoro from oil to coal firing. Its PC-I is lying with Planning Commission, Islamabad for necessary approval.

74. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:** (Notice received on 06-12-2013 at 09:30 am)

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

- (a) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for up-gradation of power generating capacity / units of Mangla power station, if so, its details; and*
- (b) *the estimated cost and period of completion of the said project?*

Khawaja Muhammad Asif: (a) Yes, proposal for up-gradation of Mangla Power Station from 1000 MW to 1310 MW is under implementation. Details are attached as (**Annex-A**).

(b) The estimated cost of the Project, as per PC-I is US \$ 483 Million with 10 years completion time.

75. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:** (Notice received on 09-12-2013 at 11:00 am)

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

- (a) *the quantum of electricity being produced from coal in the country;*
- (b) *the details of coal fired power plants in the country indicating also the location and quantum of electricity being produced by each plant; and*
- (c) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to install more coal fired power plants in the country, if so, the details thereof?*

Khawaja Muhammad Asif: (a) The reply is attached at **Annexure-I**.

(b) **FBC Lakhra (GENCO-IV) :**

The location of Lakhra Power Station is near Manzooraabad (Khanote) in the District of Jamshoro, Sindh on the right bank of river Indus. Hyderabad city is about 60KM in North East Lakhra Power Station is comprises of 03 coal fired units of 50 MW each on fluidized bed technology. Unit No. 1, is in operational condition, whereas other two units are under shutdown for want of major rehabilitation work which is under process.

(c) The Government has planned to construct following coal power plants in the country in public sector:

i. **2x660 MW Coal Fired Power Plant, Jamshoro:** The preliminary documentation of this project has been completed. The project is being financed by Asian Development Bank. The loan agreement has been signed for US\$900 Million. The tentative completion of this project is 2018. 20%, Thar Coal (lignite) and 80% imported coal (Sub-bituminous) will be used on this project.

ii. **2x660 MW Coal Fired Power Plant, Gadani:**

The Government has planned to construct Power Park at Gadani, Baluchistan. 10x660 MW machine will be installed on imported coal. 8x660 MW machines will be installed by IPPs and 2x660 MW machines will be installed by Pakistan Power Park Management Company Limited. The preliminary documentation *i.e.* feasibility report, (Sub-bituminous) will be used. Request for proposal has been issued to respective firm.

iii. **2x660 MW Coal Fired Power Plant, Thar:**

Its concept paper has been submitted to Ministry of Planning & Development Division, Islamabad for approval. EoI has been called to hire appropriate consultant for preparation of preliminary documentations. 100% Thar Coal will be used.

iv. **2x660 MW Coal Fired Power Plant, Lakhra:**

Its concept paper has been submitted to Ministry of Planning & Development Division, Islamabad for approval. EoI has been called to hire appropriate consultant for preparation of preliminary documentations. 100% Thar Coal will be used.

v. **200 MW Coal Fired Power Plant, Quetta:**

Its concept paper has been submitted to Ministry of Planning & Development Division, Islamabad for approval. EoI has been called to hire appropriate consultant for preparation of preliminary documentations. 100% Thar Coal will be used.

76. ***Syeda Sughra Imam:** (Notice received on 20-12-2013 at 01:30 pm)

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

- (a) *the amount / volume of circular debt at present; and*
- (b) *the step being taken by the Government to reduce, address and tackle the problem of circular debt in short, medium and long term?*

Khawaja Muhammad Asif: (a) Re-emergence of Circular Debt takes place mainly due to non-availability of required funds to pay off the liabilities of Power Generators. Circular Debt re-emerges due to short remittance by DISCOs in the wake of less recovery and excess line losses than determined by NEPRA and non-release / short release of subsidy by GoP.

Reconciled overdue payables to Power generators as on 31.05.2013 were Rs. 561 billion. Payment / adjustment of Rs. 503 billion was made. After deducting liquidated damages of Rs. 23 billion, payments / adjustments of Rs. 480 billion were made. Overdue payables were Rs. 81 billion at that time.

However, overdue payables as on 31-01-2014 were Rs. 246 billion, increasing by Rs. 165 billion (246-81). Increase in overdue payables is due to following reasons:

- i. Short receipt by DISCOs to the tune of Rs. 61 billion during the period (July - January) 2013-14.
- ii. Short subsidy receipts from Ministry of Finance to the tune of Rs. 40 billion during (July - January) 2013-14.
- iii. Receivables from KESC Rs. 41 billion (July - January) 2013-14.

(b) Following steps are being taken by the present Government to reduce, address and tackle the problem of circular debt in future:

1. To convert oil based plants to coal to reduce cost of generation.
2. Installation of plants on hydel sources.
3. Provision of maximum gas for gas based plants.
4. Increase in tariff keeping in view the socio economic condition of the people.
5. Improvement in recovery position and reduction in losses.
6. To control theft of Power.
7. To control law and order situation in the country.

8. Maximum provision of energy to industrial Sector to improve revenue and overall economy of the country.

77. ***Syeda Sughra Imam:** (Notice received on 23-12-2013 at 11:40 am)

Will the Minister for Water and Power be pleased to state the quantum of additional power generated by each IPP which were paid from the amount of around Rs.500 billion disbursed in July, 2013 as circular debt indicating also the details of amount paid and additional power generated by each IPP?

Khawaja Muhammad Asif: Due to circular debt, IPPs were unable to make payment to Fuel Suppliers resulting in operation of their plants at lesser capacity. After disbursement of Rs. 500 billion July, 2013 all IPPs started generating power. A additional 1700 MW of dormant capacity was put in operation.

78. ***Syeda Sughra Imam:**(Notice received on 23-12-2013 at 02:00 pm)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that moratorium on the death penalty will continue till continuation of the EU GSP plus status conferred on Pakistan?

Minister for Foreign Affairs: GSP Plus was granted to Pakistan by the EU on 12 December 2013. It came into effect from 01 January 2014. The moratorium on the death penalty is not among the precondition to qualify for or continue GSP plus status. However, the European Union is a strong proponent of universal abolition of death penalty.

79. ***Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 01-01-2014 at 10:00 am)

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

(a) the rules and procedure laid down for promotion against the posts of Senior General Managers, General Managers and Deputy Managing Directors in PSO; and

(b) whether any irregularity has been found in the promotions against the said posts during the last six years, if so, the details thereof and the reasons for making such promotions?

Mr. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi: (a) The rules and procedure for the promotions to Senior Management positions – GMs & above are, *inter-alia*, laid down in the Uniform Recruitment & Promotion Policy formulated for the companies under the administrative control of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Resources approved / adopted by PSO's Board of Management (BOM) in October-2011. The relevant extract of the policy relating to the said positions is as under:

Promotions (Junior & Mid Career Level-upto GM):

- (1) To take place once or twice a year on merit and performance. Pre-qualification through tests.
- (2) Companies to have a Performance Management Process (PMP) and Management by Objective (MBO) Assessment System.
- (3) Testing to be carried out using IBA, LUMS and National Testing Service.
- (4) Only those securing 60% to be called for interview.
- (5) Weightage: 70% marks to be allocated for the written test. 15% marks allocated for interview and, 15% for performance evaluation record.
- (6) Interview panel to consist of 3 to 5 members including Board HR Rep.
- (7) Promotion to only take place in case of clear vacancies and budgeted positions as per job profile which have the prior approval of the Board.
- (8) Vacancies to be announced internally.
- (9) A minimum service/qualifying period be determined at each grade in addition to fulfilling job profile parameters.

Promotions (Senior Management Positions – GM's & above):

- (1) Companies to have a Performance Management (PMP) and Management by Objective (MBO) Assessment System to pre-qualify internal candidates for consideration.
- (2) Prequalification to be through testing as above.
- (3) Assessment to be carried out through a high powered 5 members Selection Board which shall obtain proposals, vision statement etc.
- (4) Candidates to provide list of achievements/justification rendering them fit and qualified for said position.
- (5) Candidates to provide a brief concept paper on their vision for furthering corporate interests if selected for next available position.
- (6) Selection Board to consist of eminent serving and retired experts from the industry, related corporate sector and top echelons of civil service in addition to the Chairman of the Board HR Committee.

- (7) In case internal succession fails and outside candidates are required those be shortlisted by third party headhunters.
- (8) Advertisement to be compulsory in respect of outside candidates with approved job profile.
- (9) Vacancies must also be circulated internally.
- (10) in case internal succession fails 25% GM's may be taken from outside.
- (11) The respective Boards to approve candidates recruitment/promotion to positions in top two tiers of company.
- (12) A Master's degree to be the minimum eligibility criteria for top positions.
- (13) Invariably internal candidates shall be considered first and outside candidates shall only be considered if required experience and skill set is unavailable internally.
- (14) GM's and above shall only be considered for promotion if they have successfully groomed their successors.
- (15) No new position be created unless pre-approved with job profile and budgeted by Board at the beginning of the year.

Prior to October-2011, the said promotions were undertaken pursuant to PSO's HR Manual, based on performance appraisal which include, among other things, employees capacity for advancement in terms of specific organizational level or functional areas. The said cases for promotion to the level of GMs and above are approved by the Board of Management.

(b) The BOM has noted certain irregularities in the promotions announced in 2012, *inter-alia*, to the said posts and has directed the management to check the required qualifications on case to case basis relating to the promotions and report the same to the next meeting of Board Human Resource & Remuneration Committee (BHR&RC). The BHR&RC will then review the cases / deliberate upon that and report to BOM. The Government Commercial Auditors have also made certain observations in respect of promotions announced in 2012 to the said posts. The determination with respect to the irregularities will be made in due course based on conclusion of the Audit report and BOM determination.

80. ***Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 01-01-2014 at 10:00 am)

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

- (a) *the details of advertisements made / published by the Ministry in the media during the last two years indicating also the expenditure incurred on each advertisement; and*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that there is substantial increase in expenditure on advertisements by the Ministry during the said period, if so, its reasons?*

Mr. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi: (a) The detail of the advertisements made by the Ministry of petroleum and Natural Resources, during the last two years *i.e* 2012 and 2013, along with expenditure incurred, is as under:-

Year	Particulars of Advertisement	Name of Advertising Agency	Amount Paid in Rupees
2012	Tender for supply of stationery and miscellaneous items	M/s Manhattan Communications (Pvt) Ltd, Islamabad	15,858/-
2013	1) Final notice to an official of the Ministry upon absence from duty	M/s Manhattan Communications (Pvt) Ltd, Islamabad	24,007/
	2) Advertisement for the post of Executive Director General	M/s Eimanad Communications, Islamabad	148,922/
	3) Final notice to an official of the Ministry upon absence from duty	M/s Manhattan Communications (Pvt) Ltd, Islamabad	33,927/-
Amount paid in 2013			Rs. 206,856/-
Total amount paid in 2012 & 2013			Rs. 222,714/-

(b) There is no substantial increase in expenditure on advertisement by the Ministry during the said period *i.e* 2012 and 2013.

81. ***Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 21-01-2014 at 11:00 am)

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that Ex. MD./CEO of the PSO, Mr. Naeem Yahya got approved a salary package of Rs.1,651,640/- per month from the Board of Management of PSO instead of getting it approved by the Government, if so, its reasons;*
- (b) *whether it is also a fact that there is a vast difference between the said salary package and that offered by the Government, if so, its details;*
- (c) *whether it is further a fact that the said MD drew access amount of Rs.8552476.00 due to that salary package in addition to an advance payment of Rs.700,000/-; and*

(d) *whether the Government has conducted any inquiry / investigation in the said matter and recovered the access amount, if so, its details?*

Mr. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi: (a) The salary package of Rs. 16,51,640/- was approved by Government, whereas, Board of Management (BOM) in its 199th meeting held on 9th February, 2012 recommended salary of Rs. 2 million alongwith the terms and conditions which were not endorsed by Ministry.

(b) The approved package as conveyed by Ministry was Rs. 1.65 million per month as compared to Rs. 2 million per month as approved by the PSO, Board.

(c) Mr. Mir started drawing salary pursuant to the approval of the Board in its 199th meeting held on 9th February, 2012. The difference comes, to Rs. 8.6 million approximately, out of which, an amount of RS. 3.819 million has been already adjusted recovered from Mr. Mir's final settlement amount and he has been asked to arrange payment of remaining amount of Rs. 4.831 million. As regards payment of advance, an amount of Rs. 373,685.00 was given to him as advance to meet the travel related expenses as per policy. However, the total outstanding recoverable amount against him, as mentioned above, is inclusive of this amount. Accordingly, a letter dated 12th December, 2013 has been sent to Mr. Mir for recovery of Rs. 4.831 million after approval of the BOM in its 211th meeting held on 27th October, 2013.

(d) The government has not conducted inquiry investigation in this regard. The status of adjustment / recovery of the said amount is given in Para-C above.

82. ***Mrs. Suriya Amiruddin:** (Notice received on 30-01-2014 at 02:00 pm)

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

- (a) *the number of international matches played by the Blind Cricket Team and Women Cricket team of Pakistan since 2007 indicating also the number of matches won and lost out of the same, separately, by each of those teams; and*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that remuneration and perks of the players of the said teams are not at par with those of the players of national Cricket Team, if so, its reasons and the steps being taken by the Government to remove this disparity?*

Mr. Riaz Hussain Pirzada: (a) The relevant information is attached as Annex-A.

(b) Remuneration and perks of players of Women Cricket Team and Blind Cricket Teams are not at par with those of the players of National cricket team.

This is due to the fact that the National Cricket Team gets more prominence and attracts sponsorships etc.

In case of the Women Cricket Team and Blind Cricket Team, they are in development stages and attracting sponsorship would take some time.

However, Pakistan Cricket Board fully finances the cricket activities of Pakistan Women Cricket and Pakistan Blind Cricket Council (PBCC) for home and away events and their office running expenses (salaries of the staff, office rent, utility bills and other related expenses).

83. ***Begum. Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 31-01-2014 at 11:00 am)

Will the Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination be pleased to state the names of the sports in which Pakistan is presently at prominent position in the International rankings?

Mr. Riaz Hussain Pirzada: The names of the sports in which Pakistan is presently at prominent in the International ranking are as under:—

Note: There are 39 National Sports Federations in the country, which are responsible for each of their sports under the Pakistan sports Board, Rules 1981. Information from other Federations is still awaited, on the status/ranking of their respective games.

84. ***Haji Ghulam Ali:** (Notice received on 31-01-2014 at 11:50 am)

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

- (a) the number of official residences of IESCO in Islamabad with sector-wise break-up;*
- (b) the details of the said residences in occupation of retired officers indicating also the date of retirement of the officer and the reasons for retaining the house so far in each case;*
- (c) the names of retired officers who have been granted permission to retain those residences more than once indicating also the reasons for granting extensions and the name of authority which granted the same in each case; and*
- (d) the time by which the said residences will be got vacated from the retired / non-entitled persons?*

Khawaja Muhammad Asif: (a) There are 850 official residences of IESCO in Islamabad. Sector wise detail is placed at Annex-A.

(b) There is only one (01) residence in occupation a retired officer Mr. Abdul Wahid GM(Technical) retired on 20-01-2014 Admissible up to 19-07-2014 (Annex-B).

(c) Nil

(d) Not applicable

85. ***Haji Ghulam Ali:** (Notice received on 31-01-2014 at 11:50 am)

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

- (a) *the details of action taken by the Government against the federation of Pakistan Olympic Association which do not follow/ implement the sports policy 2005 and the decisions of the Supreme Court of Pakistan;*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that the funds are not being released to the sports federations, if so, its reasons, and*
- (c) *whether funds will be released to the said federation which do not follow the sports policy 2005?*

Mr. Riaz Hussain Pirzada: (a) Pakistan Sports Board (PSB) with the approval of Federal Cabinet introduced National Sports Policy-2005 (revised) for implementation by the Sports Association/Federations. The same -policy was upheld by the Supreme Court of Pakistan *vide* judgment dated 08-05-2012 Sports Policy contains tenure restriction clauses relating to National Sports Federations. Pakistan Olympic Association and Provincial Olympic Associations.

Lt. Gen (R) Syed Arif Hassan was elected President, POA for third term during February. 2012. against the tenure restriction clauses of National Sports Policy 2005. Since the judgment of the Supreme Court of Pakistan was announced on 08-05-2012, therefore, in light of the judgment, POA headed by Lt. Gen. (R) Syed Arif Hassan was not entertained by Pakistan Sports Board. Technical support/ facilities are not being provided to POA/Federations which do not follow the Sports Policy.

(b) The funds of National Sports Federations are withheld due to conflict of Pakistan Olympic Associations and Fact Finding Process regarding the National Sports Federations. A number of parallel Federation of certain games have been formed, and as such the genuine National Sports Federations require verification.

(c) After the fact finding process. funds will released to the genuine National Sports Federations subject to the fact that they follow the National Sports Policy 2005 in its true letter and spirit.

86. ***Begum. Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 03-02-2014 at 09:30 am)

Will the Minister for Water and Power be pleased to state the names of new power projects completed in the country from 2008 to 2013?

Khawaja Muhammad Asif: The names of new power projects completed in the country from 2008 to 2013 are as follows:

Sr. No.	Name of Power Stations	Location	Province	Date of Commissioning			
01	Attock Gen Ltd (AGL)	Rawalpindi	Punjab	Mar-2009			
02	Atlas Power	Sheikhupura	Punjab	Dec-2009			
03	Nishat Power	Multan Road, Lahore	Punjab	Jun-2010			
04	Orient Power	Baloki	Punjab	May-2010			
05	Engrd-Energy	Dharki	Sindh	Mar-2010			
06	Saif Power	Sahiwal	Punjab	Apr-2010			
07	Hubco Narowal	Narowal	Punjab	Apr-2011			
08	Halmore	Sheikhupura	Punjab	Jun-2011			
09	Sapphire	Muridkey	Punjab	Oct-2010			
10	Nishat Chunian	Multan Road, Lahore	Punjab	Jul-2010			
11	Liberty Power Tech	Faisalabad	Punjab	Jan-2011			
12	Foundation Power	Dharki	Sindh	May-2011	13	Chashma	(PAEC)
Chashma	Punjab	Oct-2011/Mar-2011					
14	Davis Egergen (Pvt) Ltd.	Jhang	Punjab	13-07-2013			
	Hydro (IPPs)						
15	Jagran (AJK)	Jagran	AJK	Oct-2000			
16	Malakand-III	Malakand	KPK	Nov-2008			
17	Laraib		AJK	Mar-2013			
	Wind						
18	FFCEL	Jampir	Sindh	May-2013			
19	ZEPL	Jampir	Sindh	25-07-2013			

87. ***Begum. Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 03-02-2014 at 09:30 am)

Will the Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the quota of Hajj for Pakistani pilgrims have been reduced by 20% for Hajj, 2014, if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Sardar Muhammad Yousaf: The Hajj Quota of Pakistan for Hajj 2014 is 143,368, as per bilateral agreement signed by Pakistan with KSA on 22-01-2014, which is 20% less than the regular allocation of 179.210. The reduction in quota is due to on going expansion plan of Haram Sharif and is applicable to all countries including Pakistan.

88. ***Mrs. Sehar Kamran:** (Notice received on 12-02-2014 at 04:55 pm)

Will the Minister for Water and Power be pleased to state the details of hydro power projects under construction in the country at present indicating also the dates of launching, expected date of completion, the amount spent with year-wise breakup and amount required for completion in each case?

Khawaja Muhammad Asif: The details of hydro power projects under construction in the country at present alongwith the dates of launching, expected date of completion, the amount spent with year wise break up and required for completion in each case is attached as Annex-A.

89. ***Mr. Ahmed Hassan:** (Notice received on 14-02-2014 at 01:15 pm)

Will the Minister for Water and Power be pleased to state the details of projects for provision of electricity to various areas in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa launched by the Government during the last five years indicating also the estimated cost, amount released so far and present status of each project?

Khawaja Muhammad Asif: Following projects for provision of electricity to various areas in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa launched by the Government during the last five years alongwith the estimated cost, amount released so far and present status:—

(Rs. In Million)

Sr. No.	Name of Project	Estimated Cost	Amount released	Status
1.	Golen Gol HPP	28,217*	5,855.030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction works in progress. Physical progress is 32.55% Expected completion date is Aug. 2015.
2.	Diamer Basba Dam	894,257	26,472.996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project preliminary works at site are in progress. Appointment of Supervisory Consultants in process. Financing for main works is
3.	Keyal Khwar HPP	being arranged by Govt. of 29,703.991 *	1,011.384	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract for Civil Works awarded. Evaluation for Pre-qualification KfW has issued No Objection on Bidding for E&M Works is in progress. Expected completion is October, 2017.
4.	Tarbela 4th Extension	83,601.000	5,604.930	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract signed and Contractor has mobilized at the site. Preparatory works is progress. Expected completion is 2017.

*Revised Estimated Cost

90. ***Mrs. Sehar Kamran:** (Notice received on 17-02-2014 at 10:00 am)

Will the Minister Incharge of the Prime Minister's Office be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to install nuclear power plants in the country, if so, its details; and*
- (b) *the names of cities or locations where the said plants will be installed?*

Minister Incharge of the Prime Minister's Office: (a) Yes. Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission is implementing nuclear power program 2030 set by Midterm Energy Security Plan of Government of Pakistan and Nuclear Energy Vision 2050. Targets set for nuclear power capacity are 8,800 MW by 2030 and more than 40,000 MW by 2050.

(b) Sites are being identified to construct nuclear power plants to meet the targets. To begin with, Muzaffargarh site is under consideration for construction of nuclear power plants.

On 26th November 2013, the Prime Minister **inaugurated** groundbreaking of 2x1100 MW KANUPP Units-2 & 3 (K-2/K-3). These plants will be constructed at Karachi.

91. ***Mrs. Sehar Kamran:** (Notice received on 17-02-2014 at 10:00 am)

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

- (a) *the names of cities where pressure of gas become low during winter season indicating also its reasons; and*
- (b) *the steps taken / being taken by the Government to maintain gas pressure round the year?*

Mr. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi: (a) Low pressure has been observed during this winter in Hyderabad, Sukkur, Larkana, Jacobabad, Much, Quetta, Kallat, Pishin and in some cities of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa like Mansehra, Rawalpindi, Islamabad, Gujar Khan etc. which are located at tail end of the distribution system.

Reasons for low pressure

- (i) The ever increasing gas supply and demand gap;
- (ii) Increased use of gas heating appliances
- (iii) Increased use of gas gensets due to prolonged electricity load-shedding
- (iv) Leakages in deteriorating distribution network
- (v) Sabotage activities by anti-state elements

(b) The low pressure problem arises mostly during winter season because of excessive demand and less gas in the system for which gas utility companies exercise prudent gas curtailment in fertilizer, cement, power, CNG and industrial sectors. Further, gas utility companies continuously take steps for improvement of their distribution system. Different projects for import of gas and increase in local production are also in hand to reduce gap between demand and supply.

ISLAMABAD :
The 5th March, 2014.

AMJED PERVEZ,
Secretary.