

SENATE SECRETARIAT

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**“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”**

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

**Thursday, the 10th May, 2012**

@54. **\*Mr. Muhammad Zahid Khan:** (Notice received on 16-03-2012 at 12:25 p.m.).

*Will the Minister for Inter Provincial Co-ordination be pleased to state:*

- (a) *whether it is a fact that vertical programmes like National Programmes on Malaria, TB, AIDs and EPI were devolved to the provinces; and*
- (b) *whether it is also a fact that the said programmes have again been started at Federal level, if so, its reasons?*

**Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani:** (a) Yes

(b) Yes.

The reasons to retain the vertical programmes at Federal level are as under:

- (a) After devolution of Ministry of Health, Economic Affairs Division (EAD) submitted a summary to the Prime Minister highlighting concerns showed by donor and International partners to place a Federal mechanism that ensure continuity of presently approved grant and to ensure securing of grant funds in future from International donors i.e. GAVI and Global Funds etc.
- (b) The Prime Minister has been pleased to approve the said Programmes in the interest of public health and to safeguard the vital support being provided by the international partner agencies after considering the views of the Provincial Governments, copy of the approval is at **Annex-A**

69. **\*Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq :** (Notice received on 16-03-2012 at 09:35 a.m.)

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

- (a) *the number of junior engineers lastly appointed in the National Transmission and Dispatch Company (NTDC) with province-wise breakup; and*

(b) *the criteria adopted for these appointments?*

**Syed Naveed Qamar:** (a) A total of 188 Junior Engineers were appointed lastly in National and Dispatch Company (NTDC) in February, 2012. The Cadre-wise and Province wise break-up as per quota prescribed under the constitution of Pakistan is detailed below:—

70. \_\_\_ **\*Begum Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 17-03-2012 at 10:40 a.m.)

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

- (a) *the quantity of electricity being purchased from Iran along with its distribution in Pakistani cities; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to purchase electricity from other neighboring countries, if so, its details?*

**Syed Naveed Qamar:** (a) 70 MW of Electricity is being purchased from Iran for Coastal areas of Makran consisting of cities/areas of Mand. Tumb, Turbat, Hushab, Pajgoor, Pasni & Gawadar. In addition 2 MW each is also being supplied from Iran to border towns of Taftan and Mashkail.

(b) Following proposals are under consideration for purchase of electricity from neighbor countries:

- i. Import of 100 MW electricity from Iran for Gawadar. Project taken in hand.
- ii. Import of 1000 MW of Electricity from Iran for Balochistan (Quetta Valley) & National Grid.
- iii. Import of 1000 MW of electricity from Tajikistan \_ and Kyrgyzstan under CASA-I000 Project through Afghanistan.
- iv. Import of 500 MW electricity from India.

71. **\*Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq:** (Notice received on 19-03-2012 at 15:10 p.m.)

*Will the Minister for Human Resource Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Pakistan is not signatory of international convention on migrant workers, if so, whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to become signatory of such conventions?*

**Ch. Wajahat Hussain:** (a) It is not fact that Pakistan is not a signatory of international convention on migrant workers. Pakistan has ratified inspection of Emigrants Convention, 1926 (No. 21).

72. **\*Begum Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 20-03-2012 at 10:45 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Housing and Works be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the present status of work done on officers Housing Scheme, Kuri Road, Islamabad and time by which it will be completed indicating also the price of houses of each category; and*
- (b) *the names and designations of the officers to whom house allotted?*

**Makhdoom Syed Faisal Saleh Hayat:** (a) The tender for the development of infrastructure works has been awarded and the work is in progress. Similarly the tenders for various category houses have also been invited and are being scrutinized. After the work is awarded the scheme would be completed in 24 months. The cost of each category houses is annexed at Flag-“A”.

(b) Detail of names and designations of the officers to whom houses are allotted, is annexed at Flag-“B”.

73. **\*Begum Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 20-03-2012 at 10:45 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to discover new gas reservoirs in the country during the last four years indicating also the results achieved?*

**Dr. Asim Hussain:** During the last four years, eighty nine (89) exploratory wells have been drilled in the country. As a result of these exploration drilling activities, twenty five (25) gas discoveries have been made. Of these, nine (9) discoveries have already added 107.215 million cubic feet per day (MMCFD) gas to national distribution network and it is expected that 122.318 MMCFD gas will also be added from rest of discoveries during 2012-13. Details are at annexure-I.

Besides above, the Government has taken following steps to further enhance oil/gas development & production activities in the country:

- (i) Presently 132 exploration- licences for exploration of oil & gas are operating in the country.
- (ii) Presently, 131 D&P Leases are operating for the enhancement of production of oil/gas in the country and these fields are producing oil at the rate of 71,772.37 Barrels of Oil per day and 4.41 Billion Cubic Feet Gas per day.

- (iii) Concentrating on more exploration in deeper prospects and under explored geological frontiers to add new reserves.
- (iv) In offshore fourteen (14) exploration licences are operating. Presently the Nikko Resources has planned to drill one offshore well in the Weather window, the success of the next well can prove a corridor for enhancement of exploration activities in the offshore area.
- (v) The Council of Common Interest (CCI) approved Tight Gas (Exploration & Production) Policy, 2011 that offers 40 percent higher price than the price announced in Exploration and Production Policy, 2009, with an incentive of additional 10% price if the discoveries are made within a period of 2 years to attract exploration companies to invest in tight gas fields. Tight gas reserves are estimated at 24 TCF. Initially 100-150 MMCFD would be added depending on its success rate.
- (vi) Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) has approved Low BTU Gas Pricing Policy. 2012 recently.
- (vii) Petroleum Policy 2009 is reviewed and Petroleum (Exploration & Production) Policy, 2012 is being promulgated shortly.
- (viii) The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Resources is also working on Shale Gas Policy to encourage the investors to exploit these reservoirs.

74. **\*Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 22-03-2012 at 09:40 a.m.)

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

- (a) *the Month-wise requirements of petrol, diesel and hi-octane in the country during the last three years till date;*
- (b) *the annual production of those products in the country at present;*
- (c) *the total quantity of the products imported during the financial years 2009-2010, 2010-2011 alongwith the rates and names of those countries from where those products imported; and*
- (d) *the difference of per liter cost between purchase cost and average consumer price at present?*

**Dr. Asim Hussain:** (a) As per Annex-I.

(b) As per Annex-II.

(c) As per Annex-II.

(d) As per Annex-II.

75. \_\_\_ **\*Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 22-03-2012 at 09:40 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Housing and Works be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there is shortage of Government residential accommodation for the Federal Government employees in the country, if so, the steps taken to address the shortage?*

Reply not received.

76. \_\_\_ **\*Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 26-03-2012 at 14:35 p.m.)

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

- (a) the present status of the import of Liquefied Natural Gas;*
- (b) whether it is a fact that LNG has not been imported as planned by the government, if so, the reasons thereof;*
- (c) the steps being taken to import the LNG accordingly; and*
- (d) whether it is also a fact that vast quantities of LNG offered at much cheaper than world present rates was offered by some countries and Pakistan has not imported from them?*

**Dr. Asim Hussain:** (a) No LNG import project has yet been completed.

(b) Yes, it is a fact that LNG has not yet been imported as planned due to *inter-alia*, following main reasons;

- i. ECC decision to re-initiate Pakistan Mashal LNG Project and associated legal complications.
- ii. Circular debt is impeding private LNG Developers in establishment of Buyer-Seller relationship with potential LNG users such as power plants.
- iii. LNG is much more expensive as compared to local gas in the country.

(c) In order to expeditiously arrange LNG supplies, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources intends to initiate competitive bidding *via* public tenders to be floated

through gas utility companies. A summary for the ECC of the Cabinet containing said proposal has been submitted for consideration and approval.

(d) No. In fact Government of Qatar has offered to supply LNG at market rates and a Term Sheet in this regard is being evaluated.

77. \*Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq : (Notice received on 05-04-2012 at 09:00 a.m.)

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that price/cost of electricity meters is charged from consumers;*
- (b) *whether it is also a fact that meter rent is also charged from consumers, if so, its reasons and the rules under which it is being charged;*
- (c) *the type of electricity connections/meters on which meter rent is charged and the period for it was charged; and*
- (d) *the amount charged by each power company as meter rent during the last four years?*

**Syed Naveed Qamar:** (a) Yes, in pursuant to section 3(b) of NEPRA eligibility Criteria for consumers of Distribution companies 2003 notified by GoP *vide* S.R.O. No.743(1)/2003 dated 26-07-2003, at present cost of electricity meter is being charged from the consumers of new connection alongwith the cost of other material at the time of getting connection on Full Cost Deposit basis. However, in case of old connections, consumers were not required to pay full cost at the time of connection.

(b) Meter Rent is charged only from those old consumers who did not pay the cost of meters at the time of getting connection.

(c) All categories of connections/meter where cost of meter has not been paid by the consumers, meter rent is being charged since the date of their, connection.

(d) Presently meter rent is being charged by all DISCOs at the following rates:—

<b>Description</b>	<b>Monthly Meter Rent Rate</b>
(a) Single Phase Meter (low tension)	Rs.7.50
(b) Poly Phase Meter (Low tension) upto 20 amp.	Rs.15.00
(c) Poly Phase Meter (low tension) above 20 and upto 90 amps capacity.	Rs.20.00

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A The year wise amount of meter rent charged by each DISCO is attached at Annex-

78. \* **Mr. Hamza** : (Notice received on 13-04-2012 at 10:55 a.m. )

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

- (a) *the names of villages in District Toba Taik Singh to which natural gas has been supplied since 2010 indicating also the amount spent in each case;*
- (b) *the names of villages in the District where work of supply of natural gas is in progress; and*
- (c) *the criteria laid down for supply of natural gas to villages in District Toba Taik Singh?*

**Dr. Asim Hussain:** (a) The names of villages in District Toba Taik Singh to which natural gas has been supplied since 2010 indicating also the amount spent in each case is at Annex-I.

(b) The names of villages in the District where work for supply of gas is in progress are as follows:—

**Name of Village**

Chak.No.294/GB, 301 /GB

Chak.No.351 /GB Nagra

Chak.No.320/GB & 322/GB, 323/GB Azafiabadi

Chak.No.293 /GB

(c) The criteria for laying gas pipeline on SNGPL area of operation as well as in district Toba Taik Singh is given below:

Natural gas is provided to towns/villages on the directives issued by the Prime Minister's Secretariat on the recommendations of the Hon'able Parliamentarians. The Government of Pakistan earmarks funds to the tune of over & above cost criteria which has been fixed by ECC for the Province of Punjab amounting to Rs. 54,000/- per consumer.

79. \***Mr. Saeed Ghani** : (Notice received on 13-04-2012 at 14:45 p.m.)

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

- (a) *the details of cases of electricity theft detected in Gujranwala city from 1st July to 31st December 2011 and action taken in each case;*
- (b) *the details of cases of illegal extension of load noticed in the city during the said period and action taken in each case; and*
- (c) *the steps being taken by the Government to control likewise cases?*

**Syed Naveed Qamar:** (a) The details of cases of electricity theft detected in Gujranwala city from 1st July to 31st December 2011 is as under:

<b>No. of Theft Cases</b>	<b>FIRS Lodged</b>	<b>Units Charged</b>	<b>Amount Charges</b>
431	65	645615	5583484

(b) The details of cases of illegal extension of load noticed in the city during the said period and action taken in each case is as under:

<b>Cases of illegal extension of load</b>	<b>Action Taken</b>
403	Notices have been issued to the consumers for removal of illegal extension of load or applying for regularization of load.

- (c) The steps being taken by the Government to control likewise cases:
- i. Continuous monitoring and surveillance of the customers especially Commercial, Industrial and Tubewells through Surveillance Teams constituted at Company, Circle, Divisional and Sub-Divisional level.
  - ii. Prompt replacement of Defective meters and arrangement for installation of Electric Meters to arrest the trend of, theft of Electricity.
  - iii. Ensuring Proper installation and securing of meters especially Industrial, Tubewell and A.C. premises.
  - iv. Providing joint free service cable before meters.
  - v. Ensuring Single electricity connection at one premise to eliminate chances of theft of electricity.
  - vi. Properly securing LT bushes of the transformers in case of connections with independent transformers.

- vii Accurate meter reading through exercising percentage check of MRSS, AMO & DMO is being ensured.
- viii. As a campaign of eradication of theft, the culprits have been charged with the detection bills and FIR's are being lodged to recover the Company loss.
80. **\*Eng. Malik Rashid Ahmed Khan:** (Notice received on 20-04-2012 at 14:15 p.m. )

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that full payment has been disbursed to SNGPL contractor for laying gas pipelines in Sector G-13/2, Islamabad; and*
- (b) *whether it is also a fact that gas pipeline has not been laid in street 62 for plots No.1 to 31, if so, its reasons, and the time by which the said pipeline will be laid?*

**Dr. Asim Hussain:** (a) Payments to all the contractors have been disbursed except one, which is also under process for laying gas pipelines in Sector G-13/2, Islamabad.

(b) It is a fact that gas pipeline has not been laid in Street 62 of Sector G-13/2 due to material constraints of the company. Process for laying of pipelines in Sector G-13/2, Islamabad including the above street is likely to be completed in the 2nd quarter of next fiscal year, barring unforeseen circumstances.

81. **\*Eng. Malik Rashid Ahmed Khan:** (Notice received on 20-04-2012 at 14:15 p.m.)

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that a promotional examination for promotion against vacant posts in various cadres in PAEC was held in 2009, if so, the number of sanctioned and vacant posts of the said cadres at the time of conducting that examination;*
- (b) *the number of employees who qualified the examination and those who were promoted against the said posts separately; and*
- (c) *whether it is a fact that a number of employees of PAEC who qualified the said examination have not been promoted so far, if so, the reasons thereof and the time by which they will be promoted?*

**Minister Incharge of the Prime Minister's Secretariat:** (a) Promotional examination of various cadres in PAEC was conducted/finalized in 2009. 142 sanctioned vacant posts were available.

(b) 412 employees qualified the examination out of which 142 employees were promoted against the said posts.

(c) Yes, a certain number of employees who qualified the examination have not been promoted due to non-availability of posts. They will be considered for promotion on availability of posts/funds.

*ISLAMABAD :*  
*The 9th May, 2012.*

IFTIKHAR ULLAH BABAR,  
*Secretary.*