

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT  
PRESS RELEASE

Islamabad the 31st May, 2021: The Standing Committee on Power which met under the Chairmanship of Chaudhry Salik Hussain, MNA deliberated on the Bill "The Regulation of Generation, Transmission and Distribution of Electric Power (Amendment) Bill, 2021". It was pointed out by the Members that the same Bill was cleared by the Standing Committee on Power in the previous meeting held on 10th March, 2021. It was told that the Bill is still pending, and during this time the Ordinance was promulgated and the same was referred to the Committee by the National Assembly. It was further told that the wording of the Ordinance is the same as that of bill cleared by the Standing Committee. The Chairman and the Members of the Committee observed that there was no need of the Ordinance and it was asked that both the Bills be double checked regarding the similarity and Chairman Mr. Salik Hussain observed that the purpose of deliberating the Bill is to ensure the availability of funds to the Government and resultantly the consumers be benefitted in the longrun with the provision of cheap electricity. On the suggestion of Members of the Committee, the Bill was deferred for the next scheduled meeting. "The Pakistan Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (No. XXV of 2019)" was discussed/deliberated by the Committee. The Chairman and other Members of the Committee showed some reservations on the amendment proposed in the Bill, and asked the Ministry to make it more comprehensive and encompassing. The Members were also requested to give their input and suggestions on the proposed amendment.

2. The Chairman CDA did not show up to brief the Committee on the important issue of issuance of new connections to the non-developed areas of Islamabad and region under IESCO. The Committee asked the officer of the CDA to convey their annoyance on the absence of Chairman CDA and decided to call him and CEO of IESCO to brief the Committee in the next scheduled meeting.

3. The Members of the Committee belonging to different constituencies complained about the loadshedding in their areas, and it was told the issue is being resolved. The reason behind this was the damage done to the Jam Shoro-Matyari line and maintenance done. It was also decided to have a comprehensive briefing on the privatization of Power Plants in the next scheduled meeting, and remarked that the employees of closed Plants may be adjusted in functional Power Plants. A Sub-Committee was appointed to address the issues of Karachi Electric (KE), DISCOs and GENCOs of Sindh.

4. The meeting was attended by MNA's Mr. Sher Akbar Khan, Ms. Ghulam Bibi Bharwana, Malik Anwar Taj, Mr. Muhammad Abdul Ghafar Wattoo, Mr. Saif Ur Rehman, Mr. Lal Chand, Engr. Sabir Hussain Kaim Khani, Mr. Muhammad Israr Tareen, Ms. Saira Bano, Sardar Muhammad Irfan Dogar, Mr. Muhammad Afzal Khokhar, Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah, Shazia Marri, Secretary from M/o Power Division & Additional Secretary Finance and senior officers of the relevant departments.

(SYED M. JAWAD MURTAZA NAQVI)  
J. S /Secretary Committee