

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

to be asked at a sitting of the National Assembly to be held on

Friday, the 23rd October, 2020

61. ***Ms. Shamim Ara Panhwar:**
(Deferred during 20th Session)

Will the Minister for Water Resources be pleased to state the steps taken or being taken by the Government to save the dams throughout the country from pollution?

Minister for Water Resources (Mr. Muhammad Faisal Vawda): It is intimated that all four provinces including Gilgit-Baltistan and AJ&K have their own Environmental Protection Agencies, which are responsible for taking care of pollution in water bodies in their territorial jurisdictions.

However, WAPDA working under administrative control of Ministry of Water Resources is operating major dams / reservoirs in the country including Tarbela Dam and Mangla Dam. Both Tarbela and Mangla dams / reservoirs have no industrial zones / industrial effluent around their periphery; therefore, there are no chances of pollution due to contamination of water in both dams/ reservoirs. Moreover, WAPDA is also conducting Watershed Management Project for taking various protective measures such as plantation, construction of check dams / weir etc. to protect the sediment inflow in the reservoir area. During high flow season, some trash material like plastic bottle, plastic shoes, wooden logs etc. also enters into reservoirs, which are trapped and then removed through trash racks installed at power intakes tunnels.

It is pertinent to mention that during construction phases of the WAPDA Projects, National and International procedures and standard guidelines are also followed to mitigate pollution in the rivers.

75. ***Ms. Shamim Ara Panhwar:**
(Deferred during 20th Session)

Will the Minister for Water Resources be pleased to state the steps taken or being taken so far by the present Government to save rivers throughout the country from pollution at present as well as in future?

Minister for Water Resources (Mr. Muhammad Faisal Vawda):
The subject matter pertains to Provincial Governments. The replies from Government of KP, and Government of Gilgit-Baltistan are placed at **Annex-I** and **Annex-II** respectively.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

8. ***Moulana Abdul Akbar Chitrali:**
(Deferred during 26th Session)

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

- (a) as to when the construction work of apartments of Category-I at Kashmir Avenue Mauve Area in G-13, Islamabad has been stopped and whether the same was to be constructed by the Federal Government Employees Housing Corporation;*
- (b) what are the reasons of stoppage of such work thereon;*
- (c) whether it is a fact that the work of the said construction has been stopped because the said land has been declared as commercial area by the CDA; if so, under which law the land has been declared as commercial area and the time by which the same will be cleared; and*
- (d) the percentage of concession being given for the said project under the Prime Minister's New Pakistan Programme?*

Minister for Housing and Works (Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema): (a) The FGE Housing Authority is executing the project Kashmir Avenue Apartments under Naya Pakistan Housing Program and the same was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Pakistan on 11th March, 2020. The FGE Housing Authority has hired services of Consultant and Contractor in light of PPRA rules. Thereon construction work was started on 06-05-2020 and since then work is going smoothly as per schedule without any hindrance and stoppage.

(b) As stated above that the work has not been stopped and is underway as per the schedule pace.

(c) The construction work has not been stopped. The said plot is situated within the Mauve Area of G-13 and is allocated for high rise apartments. The CDA Board also approved the construction of apartments for FG employees.

(d) The FG employees are only charged the actual cost of construction and further subsidy is through auction of commercial area of the project. Prior to Naya Pakistan Housing program, the FGE Housing Authority took steps to provide loan facility to its registered members. On 02-10-2019, the FGE Housing Authority signed MOU with HBFC but due to certain limitation at the part of AGPR that could not be processed. The FGE Housing Authority has once again taken up the matter with HBFC and also issued letters to the banks. In response, the following banks quoted their rates. The loan facility is at final stages which will be placed before executive board meeting for decision.

HBFC

Loan terms	Finance limit	Mark-up
First 5 years	Upto 6 Million	7.5%
	Above 6 Million	8%
After 5 years	Up to 6 Million	1.5%
	Above 6 million	2.4%

Commercial bank offered rates

JS Bank	Kibor + 2.25%
Bank of Punjab	KIBOR + 2%
Bank Al Habib	KIBOR + 1.75%
Askari Bank	KIBOR +2.5 - 3%
HBL Islamic	Upto 900 SFT KIBOR + 2.5 -2.7%
	Above 900 SFT
	KIBOR + 2.65 – 2.85%

Further, a subsidized is also being considered by State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) which will be announced soon.

9. ***Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam:**
(Deferred during 26th Session)

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

- (a) *category-wise details of employees alongwith their post, grade, and name of departments who were allotted Government accommodation in lieu of General Waiting List, however, they could not get possession of their allotted house, at present;*
- (b) *the reasons of not getting the possession of allotted house in each of above case; and*
- (c) *what steps are being taken by the Estate Office to enable aforesaid allottees to get the possession of their allotted House?*

Minister for Housing and Works (Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema): (a) Detail of employees regarding their posts, grade and allotted Government Accommodation in lieu of General Waiting List and they could not get possession of their allotted house is placed at Annex-I.

(b) These allottees could not get possession of their houses due to court cases and involvement of Rules 15(1) & (2) of Accommodation Allocation Rules, 2002.

(c) The allottees who could not get possession of their allotted houses will be allotted alternate government accommodations as soon as they become available.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

10. ***Sardar Ayaz Sadiq:**
(Deferred during 26th Session)

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

- (a) *steps taken by the Division to prepare subject-wise list of titles of all laws and rules made there under with reference to the business allocated to the said Division and its attached departments under the Rules of Business, 1973;*

- (b) *present status of and provide subject-wise list of titles of said Laws/Rules;*
- (c) *whether it is a fact that steps have been taken by said Division to consolidate and amend said Laws/Rules to keep pace with changes in Society; if so, details; if not, reasons thereof;*
- (d) *whether it is also a fact that steps have been taken by said Division to determine anomalies, inconsistencies and difficulties in the administration and implementation of said Laws and Rules;*
- (e) *if so, provide copy of latest post legislative scrutiny made by said Division; and*
- (f) *names of officers/branches appointed/designated thereof?*

Minister for Housing and Works (Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema): (a) Ministry of Housing & Works (Main)

The following Rules have been framed by this Ministry to regulate the allotment of Accommodation Allocation in Government owned Accommodations.

- i. Accommodation Allocation Rules 2002 and amendment thereafter.
- ii. Accommodation Allocation Minister' Enclave Rules 2019.
- iii. Federal Government Hostel Rules 2019.

(b) Ministry of Housing & Works (Main)

Following rules have been newly enacted:

- i. Accommodation Allocation Rules 2002 and amendment thereafter.
- ii. Accommodation Allocation Minister' Enclave Rules 2019.
- iii. Federal Government Hostel Rules 2019.

F.G.E Housing Authority

Following Laws have been newly enacted:

- a. Federal Government Employees Housing Authority Ordinance, 2019 (replaced by Act, 2020).

- b. Federal Government Employees Housing Authority Act, 2020 (Jan.-2020)

Following Rules and Regulations are in the process of formulation by the Authority:

- a. FGEHA Service Regulations, 2020.
- b. FGEHA Pension Rules, 2020.
- c. FGEHA Leave Rules, 2020
- d. FGEHA Medical Attendance Regulations, 2020
- e. FGEHA Efficiency and Discipline, Rules, 2020.
- f. FGEHA Law Regulations, 2020.

(c) Ministry of Housing & Works (Main)

Certain Amendments in the following Rules have been made to keep pace with changes in society.

- i. Accommodations Allocation Rules-2002.
- ii. Rules 2(o) regarding standard rent, 6 (8) regarding provision of accommodation to FGS during foreign posting, Rule 6(9) regarding 1% reservation of quota for disable FGS appointed against disabled quota for allotment of Government accommodation.
- iii. Rule 15(1) (a), regarding retention of Government owned accommodation by the families of the deceased civil servant died during service, Rule 15 (1) (b) regarding allotment of accommodation to the serving widow or serving legitimate Children of deceased FGS.
- iv. Rule 5(2) (b) regarding allotment of accommodation to serving spouse or legitimate children of the retired FGS, Rule 15(4) (A) regarding retention of House by an FGS on his transfer or sent on deputation to an outstation.
- v. Rule 15 (4) (C) regarding retention of Government accommodation by FGS who transferred to autonomous organization at same station.

- vi. Rule 25 (4) (a & b) regarding charging of rent in case of unauthorized retention beyond legally allotted period.
- vii. Rule 26 (1) (b) regarding charging of rent from the FGS.

Accommodation Allocation Ministers Enclave Rule 2019

The said rules have been framed to regulate the accommodation allocation in Ministers Enclave.

Federal Government Hostel Rules 2019 by repealing Hostel Rules 1983

- viii. Rule 4 regarding eligibility for allotment of Government Hostel and period for retention.
- ix. Rules 13 regarding evictions of Government Hostels and other were amended.

F.G.E Housing Authority

Federal Government Employees Housing Foundation (FGEHF) has been transformed into an Authority through Act of Parliament *i.e.* Federal Government Employees Housing Authority Act, 2020. This status of the Foundation into an Authority has been made in order to keep pace with the changes in society and urban development with particular reference to demand of housing for federal government employees and other specified groups.

(d) Best efforts have been made to address the anomalies in the recent amendments in the above said Rules.b.

(e) Nil.

12. ***Mr. Muhammad Aslam Khan:**
(Deferred during 26th Session)

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the repair/maintenance work has not been carried out in Flats of Category-V, I-9/4, Islamabad since long;*

- (b) *whether it is also a fact that there is leakage/seepage in the roofs of flats especially, in Flat No.10 and Flat No.14, Block No.6 Category-V, I-9/4, particularly in wash room/toilet, since long;*
- (c) *whether it is further a fact that despite number of complaints lodged by allottees in the Inquiry Office, Pak, PWD, I-9/4, Islamabad the repair work has not been carried out so far to remove the leakage from the same; if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (d) *the time by which the said repair work will be carried out?*

Minister for Housing and Works (Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema): (a) Yes, it is a fact that the repair / maintenance work has not been carried out in flats of Category-V, I-9/4, since long due to non availability of funds.

(b) Yes, it is a fact that there is leakage / seepage in the roof of Flat No. 10 & 14, Block No. 06, Cat-V Sector I-9/4, Islamabad. It is apprised that the flats of I-9/4 were constructed in 1980's, most of them are in deteriorated condition and the maintenance is long overdue.

(c) It is not a fact that despite a number of complaints lodged by the allottees, the repair work has not been carried out. In fact the maintenance staff of the Enquiry Office has visited the site, the minor repair works were carried out. However in the recent monsoon season the condition of roofs have much deteriorated. Moreover no funds are available to carry out the repair work.

(d) The leakage/seepage in bathrooms roof will be carried out on priority subject to availability of sufficient funds from the quarter concerned.

13. ***Syed Agha Rafiullah:**
(Deferred during 26th Session)

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

- (a) *category-wise, number of Government houses, which are expected to be made available for further allotment for next three years;*

- (b) *category-wise number of Government houses, which have been allotted out of tern either in terms of hardship cases or otherwise since the decision of Supreme Court, in which the court has already set out a principle to allot Government accommodation on merit;*
- (c) *the justification of allotment of each of above house; and*
- (d) *whether codal formalities, as defined by the court were fulfilled or complied with while issuing such allotments; if so, the detail thereof alongwith procedure, which is adopted to fulfill such codal formalities?*

Minister for Housing and Works (Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema): (a) Category-wise number of houses which are expected to become available for allotment during next three years are placed at **Annex-I**.

(b) Three government accommodations have been allotted on out of turn basis since the Supreme Court of Pakistan order in CP No. 1498/2011 detail are at **Annex-II**.

(c) As above.

(d) As above.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

14. ***Mr. Saad Waseem:**
(Deferred during 26th Session)

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

- (a) *whether General Waiting List for allotment of Government owned accommodation has not been updated; if so, the reason thereof;*
- (b) *the date on which lastly updated the GWL alongwith the detail thereof;*

- (c) *the total number of Houses, Category-wise of the Government in Islamabad at present alongwith the Sector wise detail thereof; and*
- (d) *the date of vacation of said houses separately alongwith the date of retirement of officers?*

Minister for Housing and Works (Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema): (a) It not true, rather the General Waiting List is being continuously updated.

(b) As above.

(c) There are 17,496 Government accommodations on the pool of Estate Office, Islamabad. The sector-wise break up is placed at **Annex-I**.

(d) The expected date of retirement of the allottees are placed at **Annex-II**. The retiring allottees shall be eligible for six months grace period for vacation of allotted accommodations on the event of their retirement under rule 15 (2) of AAR, 2002.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

42. ***Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak:**
(Deferred during 26th Session)

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of affected healthcare workers from Covid-19 since its outbreak in Pakistan so far; and*
- (b) *the steps taken by the Government to protect the healthcare workers from this deadly infection?*

Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination: (a) Healthcare workers (HCWs) are on the frontline of treating patients infected with COVID-19. Pakistan's healthcare providers' community has so far lost 85 of their colleagues (till 4th October 8:00 PM), including doctors, nurses and allied medical staff.

Till 4th October 2020, as many as 8,080 healthcare workers including 4,938 doctors, 916 nurses and 2,226 other healthcare staff have contracted the disease so far. Currently, 27 healthcare workers admitted in various hospitals are stable. While 7,793 healthcare workers till now have recovered.

(b) Steps Taken by the Government

The following steps are being taken by the government to protect the healthcare workers from this deadly infection:

1. The Government provides PPEs to the healthcare staff including gloves, face masks, goggles, face shields and gowns to prevent the spread of infection
2. Recruitment of Critical Care Specialists to provide back-end support for the critical care workers being trained for COVID-19 (initial vetting already carried out) and development of SoPs, guidelines and training of health care workers on vents and Infection Prevention and Control.
3. In an acknowledgement of the dire risks healthcare workers incur every day, the government announced a comprehensive support package for these medical professionals. Among its features is a Shuhada package from Rs. 3M to Rs. 10M for the families of those in the medical profession sacrificing their lives in the line of duty.
4. The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) approved Rs. 480.556 million to pay risk allowance to all healthcare workers performing duties related to Covid-19.

60. ***Moulana Abdul Akbar Chitrali:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the province and district-wise detail of occupied railways land in the country;*
- (b) *the names of persons/institutes have occupied railways land;*
- (c) *the names of areas alongwith the details of railways land in acres which have been recovered from illegally occupants; and*

(d) *the detail of purposes for which said land was utilized alongwith the purpose for which the said land is being utilized at present?*

Minister for Railways (Sheikh Rashid Ahmed): (a) At present 4400.68 acres of Railway land is under un-authorized occupation in all over the provinces as per following breakup:

(Area in Acres)

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Punjab	Sindh	Balochistan	Total
381.6	1937.68	1510.12	571.288	4400.68

The detail of district wise encroached railway land in all over the provinces is enclosed as Annexure -A.

(b) The names of persons/institutes who have occupied railways land un-authorizedly in the provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan are enclosed as Annexure- B, C, D and E respectively.

(c) The names of areas in which the railways land has been retrieved since last two years is enclosed as Annexure-F to F/11.

The province wise detail of Railways land in Acres which have been recovered from the illegal occupants since last two years is as under:—

Type of Encroachment	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Punjab	Sindh	Balochistan	Total Area in Acres
Commercial	12.481	55.108	7.131	0.71	75.43
Residential	0.03	11.427	15.239	0.88	27.576
Agriculture	15.721	172.172	14.76	0	202.653
Total:-	28.232	238.707	37.13	1.59	305.659

(d) Pakistan Railway's land is primarily used for operational purpose or is reserved for future expansion/development works. However, Pakistan Railways also leases its surplus land all over the network for various purposes such as

commercial and agricultural purposes etc. as per Engineering Code Para 607 “Management of Land”. The land is leased out through competitive bidding after advertisement in the newspaper, in a transparent manner, generating handsome revenue from commercial leasing of Railway land such as premium shops/khokha shops, agriculture purposes, parking stands and stacking etc.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

61. ***Mr. Naveed Aamir Jeeva:**

Will the Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony be pleased to refer to the Starred Question No. 84 replied on 14-01-2019 and to state:

- (a) the details of all those schemes, which were initiated for maintenance of worship places of non-Muslims;*
- (b) the criteria, which is adopted to distribute the reserved amount in different communities of non-Muslims for the maintenance of their worship places; and*
- (c) whether incumbent non-Muslims MNA/Senators were consulted for such schemes; if so, the details thereof?*

Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony (Mr. Noor-ul-Haq Qadri): (a) The details of all schemes, which were initiated for maintenance of worship places of non-Muslims during Financial Year 2019-20 are attached as **Annex-I**.

(b) The amount of funds for maintenance of worship places of different non-Muslim communities is used as per criteria approved in Accounting Procedure duly approved by Ministry of Finance and Auditor General of Pakistan. According to this, such amount is distributed among Minister/ MOS as well as Minority Parliamentarians on equal basis and is used on their recommendations.

(c) Yes. All minority Parliamentarians were consulted *vide* this Ministry’s letter F. No. 6(1)/2018-Dev. dated 16-09-2019 followed by, reminders dated 01-10-2019, 21-10-2019 and 15-11-2019 (Copies attached as **Annex-II**) as well as telephonically and through Whatsapp messages.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

62. ***Syed Agha Rafiullah:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to refer to the Un-Starred Question No. 2 replied on 14-09-2020 and to state:

- (a) the details of punishment awarded to Bridge Inspector, Bridge Workshop, Jhelum mentioned in part (a) of reply of the above said question;*
- (b) whether it is a fact that deduction has been made from the salary of the above said employee; if so, the details thereof;*
- (c) whether deduction is still being made from the salary of the above said employees; if not, why the said deduction was stopped;*
- (d) the steps being taken by the authority to ensure appointment of Assistant Work Manager at the earliest; and*
- (e) the scale-wise number of employees working in lower scales in Bridge Workshop, Jhelum alongwith the further steps being taken for promoting the said employees to the next scale?*

Minister for Railways (Sheikh Rashid Ahmed): (a) Mr. Arshad Ali while working as Bridge Inspector, Lahore, was held responsible for the slack supervision and failure to proper take care of the bridge released material as per the findings of the Enquiry conducted in theft case of service span of 44 feet on Sahiwal-Lahore Section. Mr. Arshad Ali was accordingly awarded the punishment of Withholding Increment Temporary (WIT) for a period of one year on account of slack supervision *vide* letter No.E-142/1874/ Confdl dated 29-10-2013 (Annex-A).

(b) No deduction was made from the salary of Mr. Arshad Ali as he was awarded the punishment of Withholding Increment Temporary (WIT) for one year due to slack supervision on the basis of enquiry report, his increment for the year-2013 was withheld and not charged with his salary. Copy of his service book is enclosed as (Annex-B).

(c) No deduction from the salary of Mr. Arshad Ali was ever made, moreover, Enquiry committee awarded the punishment of WIT for one year,

resulting his one year increment was withheld (copy of the enquiry committee report is attached as (Annex-C). In addition to this, it is submitted that in order to dig out the actual culprits, FIR has been lodged in District Police Station Raiwind Saddar and investigation is under process.

(d) Mr. Arshad Ali has been posted as Bridge Inspector, Peshawar Division and duties of Assistant Works Manager (AWM) Jhelum have been assigned to Assistant Engineer Ferry Crossing (AFX) Technical Headquarters Office, Lahore. Suitable proposal for the posting new AWM /Bridge Workshop Jhelum is under process.

(e) Scale wise detail of employees working in lower scale in Bridge Workshop, Jhelum is enclosed as (Annex-D), whereas, the employees are promoted under the rules keeping in view the availability of vacancies.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

63. ***Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar:**

Will the Minister for National Food Security and Research be pleased to state:

- (a) on which rate sugar cane and wheat was given to farmers;*
- (b) what is the prevailing rate of sugar and flour, how same is determined/fixed;*
- (c) any plan for increasing rate for the farmers; and*
- (d) any plan for controlling sugar and wheat prices?*

Reply not Received.

64. ***Ms. Zille Huma:**

Will the Minister for National Food Security and Research be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Ministry to control Yellow Rust disease in plants?

Minister for National Food Security and Research (Syed Fakhar Imam): Ministry of National Food Security & Research through PARC has taken the following steps to control the yellow rust disease:—

- Recommended to delist the rust susceptible varieties and the seed multiplication of these varieties should be stopped (**Annex-A**)
- Promote highly resistant to yellow rust varieties (**Annex-B**)
- Variety Evaluation Committee and Provincial Seed Council do not allow the varieties susceptible to yellow rust as a result, the wheat varieties released in the last five years are performing best under high disease pressure.
- Early sowing recommendation also minimize the yellow rust risk.
- Encourage the public and private seed sector to produce the seed of resistant varieties for cultivation in following years.
- The cultivation of mega cultivars TD-1, Galaxy-13, AS-2002, Faisalabad-2008, TJ-83, Kirin-95 on large scale creating the problem of inoculum load in the country. All these wheat varieties lose their resistance from the last many years.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

65. ***Ms. Shagufta Jumani:**

Will the Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony be pleased to state:

- (a) what is policy of Ziarats;*
- (b) whether Government has taken any in-put from stakeholders; if so, the details thereof; and*
- (c) time by which this policy will be finalized and implemented on ground?*

Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony (Mr. Noor-ul-Haq Qadri): (a) Ziarat Policy to manage the Ziarat of Iran, Iraq and Syria is on drafting stage. The objective of the Policy is to devise a policy for efficient Ziarat arrangements, through provision of services, logistics, security and health care during Ziarat to these countries.

(b) Yes, following stakeholders have been consulted:

- Ministry of Interior/ Security Agencies.
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Finance Division
- Consultation with Salars, Ziarat Tour Operators and Religious Leaders.

All of the stakeholders have welcomed the efforts of this Ministry and provided their valuable input for incorporation in the Policy.

(c) The draft Policy is on final stage and soon will be placed before the Federal Cabinet for approval.

66. ***Dr. Mahreen Razzaq Bhutto:**

Will the Minister for Maritime Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether the land held by Pakistan Textile City, Karachi, belonging to Port Qasim Authority (PQA) or Sindh Government;*
- (b) *if it belongs to the PQA, then is there any proposal under consideration of Government to re-acquire such land?*

Minister for Maritime Affairs (Syed Ali Haider Zaidi): (a) & (b) 1. The land held by the Pakistan Textile City Limited (PTCL) belongs to Port Qasim Authority. In Phase-1, 700 acres land was allotted in the year 2006 (**Annexure-A**) and in Phase-11, 550 acres of land was allotted in the year 2007 (**Annexure-B**). Both the allotments were made on 50 years lease basis for setting up Textile City. M/s. PTCL is required to pay an annual ground rent Rs. 9,918/- per acre, which is to be increased by 5% annually compounded ever year. M/s. PTCL is not paying ground rent to PQA since long.

2. M/s. PTCL has obtained Running Finance and Demand Finance facilities from the National Bank of Pakistan against land title and guarantee from the Government of Pakistan. As per letter dated 9th February 2018 of NBP the outstanding loan & markup was Rs. 3,089,779,745/- as on 31-12-2017 (**Annexure-C**).

3. The project could not be materialized and finally Honorable Prime Minister issued following directives on 12th May 2016 (**Annexure-D**).

- i. The recommendations of the Committee are approved, in principle. Accordingly, Finance Division shall immediately take the lead for voluntary winding up of the Company, after meeting all necessary pre-requisites;
- ii. Simultaneously, all assets of the Company shall be disposed off through an order of transfer to Port Qasim Authority, which originally leased the land to Pakistan Textile City, Ltd, since the terms of lease do not allow its further sale or transfer to a third party; and
- iii. Port Qasim Authority shall be responsible to settle all liabilities of the Company out of its own resources, since it will have beneficial use of the land from now onwards.

4. Thereafter a meeting chaired by Mr. Iftikhar Babar Director / Secretary Textile Division was held on 09th May 2019, wherein Secretary Textile Division briefly shared the latest development on revival of PTCL. The Secretary Textile Division also informed the Board that on the proposal of Textile Division, the Prime Minister has stopped the liquidation process and directed to submit the revised business plan before the ECC for its consideration and approval. Copy of draft minutes is attached as (**Annexure-E**).

5. Additional status of revival case matter be solicited from the Ministry of Textile Industries, Pakistan Textile City Limited.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

67. ***Mr. Abdul Qadir Patel:**

Will the Minister for Industries and Production be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that prices of essential items including the prices of wheat and sugar has been increased in multifold during the recent months;*
- (b) *if so, whether it is also a fact that Federal Government has failed to control such increasing and make the prices of such essential items under its administrative jurisdiction;*

- (c) *if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (d) *what steps are being taken to make the prices of essential items, including the prices of wheat and sugar affordable?*

Minister for Industries and Production (Mr. Muhammad Hammad Azhar): (a) Data on national average monthly retail prices since January 2020 retrieved from Pakistan Bureau of Statistics is at **Annex-1**. Price of 1 kg of sugar in January 2020 was Rs. 75.77/kg whereas in September 2020 it was Rs. 94.79/kg.

The reply with regard to the essential item wheat provided by Ministry of National Food Security & Research at Annex-A.

(b) & (c) After the 18th Amendment to the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan 1973 and abolition of Concurrent Legislative List price control is a provincial subject. However, the Price Control and Prevention of Profiteering and Hoarding Act 1977 is still applicable to the extent of Islamabad Capital Territory and is administered by Interior Division to the extent of Islamabad Capital Territory.

(d) Ministry of Industries and Production oversees Sugar Advisory Board (SAB). In the aftermath of the 18th Amendment the roles of SAB is limited to working out domestic requirement of sugar and assess supply prospects and make suggestions to Government to signal imports or exports of sugar.

In the SAB meeting held on 22-07-2020 it was anticipated that there will be shortage of sugar before start of new crushing year. Therefore, it was decided to import 300,000 MT of sugar to maintain strategic reserves, stabilize prices and prevent any possible shortfall at the end of crop year 2019-20. Consequently, ECC of the Cabinet allowed Trading Corporation of Pakistan (TCP) to import upto 300,000 MT of sugar. TCP has awarded the tenders of 151,700 MT of sugar so far and another tender of 50,000 MT is in process.

Furthermore, commercial/private importers were also allowed tax exemption scheme which is time bound *i.e.* from 25th August 2020 till 15th November 2020 and 300,000 MT quota allowed to commercial/private importers. Commercial/private importers have opened L/Cs of 147,000 MT to date.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

68. ***Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja:**

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that WHO in its recent report of executive board foreseen the increase in number of polio cases in Pakistan in coming years;*
- (b) if so, such forecasting of increasing number in polio cases in the country incoming years is tantamount of failure of Federal Government to devise a comprehensive policy to eradicate the polio from the country;*
- (c) if so, what steps are being taken to tackle such an alarming situation with the collaboration of all stakeholders?*

Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination: (a) The Independent Monitoring Board (IMB) is an independent body, which assesses the performance of endemic countries towards Polio eradication. The IMB accordingly assessed the progress and impact of COVID-19 on Polio eradication activities in Pakistan in June 2020, as all Polio vaccination activities were stopped in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic (in line with GPEI recommendations). The IMB alerted that in case of no Polio campaigns during the 2nd half of 2020, the Polio cases can increase rapidly, and thus recommended the Programme to resume Polio vaccination activities as soon as possible. The statement from the report is also reproduced below:

“If no mass vaccination activities take place, there will be many more polio cases than were expected pre-COVID-19, by the end of the year.”

(b) Thanks to support from across the board, Pakistan successfully restarted Polio vaccination activities in July with a targeted campaign in 169 high risk UCs, followed by a sub-national campaign in 130 districts / towns in August (vaccinating over 32.1 million children) and nationwide round in September (vaccinating 39 million children).

(c) The Government is fully committed to the noble cause of Polio eradication. After a challenging 2019, the Ministry of NHR&C revitalized

the Polio Eradication Programme & started the battle afresh from Dec. 2019 projecting the cause as a shared priority across political divide:

- Under the NEAP 2020 devised based on in-depth analysis of 2019 crisis, all requisite short-term & long-term measures were initiated. Besides intense focus on RI, hectic SIAs schedule was chalked out, and laser focus was placed on super high risk UCs, integrated services delivery, addressing refusals in resisting pockets / community awareness activities, and coordination with Afghanistan.
- The Programme conducted two successful NIDs in Dec. 2019 & Feb. 2020 reaching every doorstep to vaccinate almost 40 million children. Additional response rounds were also conducted in Jan. and March. Resultantly, the Polio cases started declining month on month from the peak observed in Dec. 2019 / Jan. 2020.
- Our efforts to build immunity through SIAs as well as the stronger essential immunization were seriously impacted by the pandemic as we had to suspend door to door vaccination in mid-March. The planned NID in April, SNID in June, and the case responses b/w Mar. - Jun. couldn't be conducted.
- The Polio Programme kept working to devise detailed revised operating modalities to resume SIAs, and formulated a consensus resumption plan with provinces and partners. As mentioned above, the Polio vaccination activities were successfully resumed from July. The commitment from the top political leadership remained unprecedented.
- This is unprecedented considering the challenges that the world faces in the COVID-19 context. The successful resumption of polio activities during COVID-19 gives us confidence that we can soon regain the momentum and reverse the current epidemiological trends.
- The Programme will conduct two nationwide (NID) and one sub-national (SNID) campaigns between Oct. - Dec./Jan. to push the virus back. The intense focus on Routine immunization and Super high risk UCs will continue. Integrated package of service

will be delivered in most vulnerable communities aiming improvement of basic health services, safe water and sanitation as well as malnutrition.

- Under the revamped communication framework, the Programme has prioritized highest risk communities with special focus on Pashtun communities. There will be an intense focus on assessing and addressing community resistance pocket by pocket.
- Close coordination with Afghanistan for synchronized implementation of vaccination activities in joint corridors / bordering areas will continue.

69. ***Ms. Shagufta Jumani:**

Will the Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony be pleased to state:

- (a) each expenditure, which is added to accumulate total expenditure for a person, who intends to perform Hajj;*
- (b) average amount of interest, which the Government earns on the deposit of such amount by each person;*
- (c) if all expenditure is added to the amount, which a person deposits to Government at the time of his intention of perform Hajj alongwith the amount of Hajj Welfare Fund; the justification to use the amount of interest under the pretext of Hajj Welfare Fund; and*
- (d) what steps are being taken by the Government to rationalized the use of Hajj Welfare Fund?*

Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony (Mr. Noor-ul-Haq Qadri): (a) Hajj package, to be borne by a person who intends to go for Hajj includes accommodation charges, Salawat transport, food charges, Zam Zam charges, Mashair charges, inter-city charges, train charges, arrival snacks, luggage charges from Makkah to Jeddah & Madinah to Madina Airport, visa fee and accidental insurance at KSA, service charges, Hujjaj Mohafiz Fund and return airfare in Pakistan.

(b) Hajj dues received by the Government are kept in Shariah Remunerative Accounts by the designated banks. The average amount of earning varies from year to year. However, approximately Rs 500.00 million are earned, which are incurred on the welfare activities of Hujjaj in KSA and Pakistan.

(c) An amount of Rs. 3500/- is received from the pilgrims on account of service charges, whereas the expenditure on welfare activities of the pilgrims is almost four times. The earned amount is credited into Pilgrims Welfare Fund (PWF) account to execute the following welfare activities: -

- (i) Training of the pilgrims.
- (ii) Printing of Hajj material.
- (iii) Hajj awareness campaign through electronic and print media.
- (iv) Purchase of Vaccines and medicines.
- (v) Purchase of IT equipment.
- (vi) To meet operational cost of Directorates of Hajj in Pakistan and Directorate General of Hajj, Jeddah.

(d) The expenditure from the Pilgrims Welfare Fund is exclusively incurred for the welfare activities of the Hujjaj according to the rules approved by the Finance Division after observing all codal formalities. This Ministry strictly observe all the financial rules and regulations while spending any amount from the Pilgrims Welfare Fund. All procurements are made while observing PPRA rules etc.

70. ***Mr. Salahuddin Ayubi:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of trains ply from Chaman to Quetta; and*
- (b) *the time by which the railway track will be completed from Chaman to Pasni Bolak?*

Minister for Railways (Sheikh Rashid Ahmed): (a) One train was running between Quetta-Chaman on daily basis, but at present Quetta-Chaman train service is suspended due to Covid-19.

(b) Feasibility study for “New Rail Link from Chaman (Pakistan) to Kandhar (Afghanistan) 107 Km” was carried out by M/s PRACS during year 2004 as 1st Step, (Phase-I) PC-I amounting to Rs. 417.00 million from Chaman to Spinboldak (instead of Pasni Bolak as mentioned in Question) was approved by the CDWP during its meeting held on 26-04-2004. However, the work could not be started for want of N.O.C from Government of Afghanistan and non- allocation of funds.

Response from Afghanistan Government is awaited regarding start of development of Railway from Kandhar to Spinboldak. Therefore, construction on Chaman - Spinboldak has not yet been started.

71. ***Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb:**

Will the Minister for Industries and Production be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total quantity of sugar purchased by Utility Stores Corporation during last eight years;*
- (b) *the price on which the same was purchased; and*
- (c) *the procedure adopted to purchase the same?*

Minister for Industries and Production (Mr. Muhammad Hammad Azhar): (a) Utility Stores Corporation (USC) *vide* their letter No. 04/NAQ/2020 dated 29th September, 2020 has reported that the Corporation has procured 1,976,910 M. Tons of sugar during the last eight (08) years. The details of procurement are enclosed at **Annex-A, B, C and D.**

(b) USC has informed that the range of purchase price of above quantity of sugar has been Rs. 47.50-Rs. 88.10/Kg.

(c) USC has submitted that it procured the above given sugar quantity through mixed method approaches of public procurement i.e. open tendering carried out in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Public Procurement Rules, 2004, direct procurement from domestic sugar mills effected in line with decision of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet in Case No. ECC-74/12/2014 dated 25-04-2014, procurement through Trading Corporation of Pakistan (TCP), some quantity of sugar was purchased on the directions of the honorable Lahore High Court Order dated 12-07-2016.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

72. ***Ms. Nasiba Channa:**

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) the new steps being taken by the present Government so far to eradicate TB in the country;*
- (b) the total number of TB patients in the country at present; and*
- (c) the locations where centres established for the treatment of TB?*

Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination: (a)

STEPS TAKEN FOR THE CONTROL OF TB ARE AS FOLLOWS:

❖ **Drug Susceptible TB:**

- Country wide network of around 1510 TB care facilities in Public sector which are providing Free TB diagnostic and treatment services.

❖ **Private sector involvement** More than 7000 GPs, 125 NGO networks, 35 private hospitals and 45 parastatal hospitals & 2000 Pharmacies have been engaged & trained who are providing TB services in private sector. Drugs and diagnostics and provided by the program free of cost including Gene pert which is latest diagnostic test for TB

❖ **Active case finding:** Active case finding is done in slumps and far flung areas to provide TB services to hard to access areas 55 Mobile van are used which are equipped with X-ray & diagnostic services. The activity is done by partners of National TB Control Programme (NTP).

❖ **Drug Resistant TB:**

- Free of cost diagnostic and treatment services for Multi-Drug Resistant (MDR) TB patients at 33 Pragmatic Management of Drug Resistant TB (PMDT) sites.
- 400 Xpert machines for rapid diagnosis of MDR-TB cases.

- 1600 Microscopy labs have been established.
- Laboratory network of 22 culture and 07 Drug Susceptibility Testing labs in the country.
- ❖ **Cross boarder TB** a special initiative to address the need of Afghan refugees and other migratory population has been started with the help of Global funds in two provinces KP & Balochistan
- ❖ **TB management Information system:** Pakistan integrated District Health Information System -2 for HIV, TB and Malaria has been developed. We are piloting the case based notification system for digital reporting of all TB cases.

Ware house management system (**WMIS**) and Drug management information system (**DMIS**) is in place Quant. TB software for quantification and need based supply of medicines.

- ❖ **TB Legislation:** Mandatory TB Notification bill has been passed by three Provincial assemblies and bylaws have been developed. However, the bill from Balochistan and Federal level is in process. The project is under pilot phase in five districts of Sindh and KP to test the digital system and operations. The results of which are promising & so far since Jan 2020, **499** cases have been added to the National data base. THB help line has also been established under this pilot and **0800-88000** supports the case notification and treatment adherence in be scaled to all over the country to get the notification of TB cases treated by them.
- ❖ **TB Awareness campaign** through print and electronic media, commemoration of World TB days on 24 March every year.
- ❖ **Development works:**

The following guidelines were prepared by National TB Control Programme in year 2019-2020. These guidelines for patient management are adopted from WHO guidelines issued from time to time:

- National TB Management guidelines -2019
- Developed National & provincial strategic plan 2020-23
- Global Fund Grant Request for 2021-23

- National MDR advisories issued -2020
- Mandatory Notification pilot in five district – 2019-20
- Online TB Management training portal – Oct 2020
- Operational Guidelines for TB during COVID-19
- Rapid assessment of infection control at health facilities
- Multi country grant 2019-2021

❖ **Research in TB:** Capacity building in research workshops organized by TB control program. Around 40 TB publications in national and international journals.

(b) There are 592,043, TB patients in the country at present. Province/Region wise breakup is as under:

	Punjab	Sindh	KP+FATA	Balocistan	AJ&K	GB	ICT	Pakistan
Incident (Est.)TB Cases*	304,360	133,211	99,619	35,083	10,720	3,733	5,317	592,043

(c) There are 1510 diagnostic and treatment facilities for Drugs Sensitive TB (**Annex-A**) and 33 for Drugs Resistant TB in Pakistan (**Annex-B**).

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

73. ***Shazia Marri:**

Will the Minister for National Food Security and Research be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that shortage in the country will end up with different essential food staples on regular basis like situation in recent times;*
- (b) if so, whether Government has conducted or intends to conduct the study to find out root causes behind such crises; if so, the details thereof;*
- (c) the benchmark upon which such study has been made or will be carried out;*

- (d) *whether Federal Government has taken notice of static production of essential food staples and high rate of post-harvest losses of fruits and vegetables during the last many years;*
- (e) *if so, what remedial steps are being taken in this regard and enhance the coordination between Federal and Provincial Governments for better supply chain of such food staples?*

Minister for National Food Security and Research (Syed Fakhar Imam): (a) Pakistan is self-sufficient in most of essential food staples and maximum food requirements are met through domestic production. Pakistan remained self-sufficient in Wheat, Rice, Potatoes, Mangoes, Citrus, Dates and Livestock production. Unfortunately, due to erratic climatic pattern during the last two years, the production of Wheat, Mangos, Onion, Tomato and Potato has declined. The current demand and supply gap is temporary in nature and the gap will be bridged with import in the short run and by enhancing domestic production in the long run.

(b) The root cause for declining of various agri-crop is the erratic weather condition which hit the production of Wheat, Onion, Tomato and some other crops. The Provincial Governments has approached for the crop damage assessment to erratic climate condition and other reasons.

(c) MNFS&R is working to establish Food Security and Nutrition Information System in consultation with different stakeholders to address the issue pertaining to food insecurity.

However, on the basis of production data from Provincial Governments food availability of major essential food staples determined on regular basis.

(d) National Agricultural Research System is consistently working to develop high yield, drought and disease resistance varieties of different crops and vegetables. The post-harvest losses has been determined various food and vegetables and accordingly NARS is working for food present and value addition to minimize the losses.

Federal Government has been taken so many steps to reduce the post-harvest losses and to enhance to quality of horticultural crops just like hot water treatment, vapor treatment, cold treatment and developing SOPs for packing plant. However, many areas still need to be address just like developing market structure, cold storge chain, transportation etc.

(e) Federal Government playing a strategic role for planning and executing agriculture research as well as maintain supply and demand situation of essential food crops in the country. To Strengthen the coordination between Federal Government and Provincial Government, Ministry of National Food Security and Research conduct biannual meeting of Federal Committee on Agriculture, an apex National level body for planning, oversight and steering of the agriculture sector and evolves strategies / recommendations for the development of this sector. Whereas PARC conduct regular meeting of Inter-Provincial Agricultural Research Coordination Committee (IPACC) and Vice Chancellor Forum to stimulate the agriculture sector progress.

74. ***Syed Hussain Tariq:**

Will the Minister for Industries and Production be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry or any other relevant authority of the Government has taken notice of intimidations of fertilizer sector to increase the prices of fertilizers; if and when Government tries to collect outstanding amount of GIDC in light of the decision of Supreme Court; if so, the details thereof;*
- (b) whether it is a fact that fertilizer sector has already collected such amount of GIDC from farmers;*
- (c) if prices of fertilizers are increased in this way, this will tantamount to contempt of the Supreme Court Judgment, same is unjust with the farmers, put negative impact on our already suppressed agriculture sector and undermine the writ of the Government;*
- (d) if so, whether the Government has started such collection; if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons thereof; and*
- (e) what corrective measures are being taken by the Government in this regard?*

Transferred to Petroleum Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

75. ***Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam:**

Will the Minister for Industries and Production be pleased to state:

- (a) *the manufacture-wise exact number of sale of automobiles of the last three years alongwith exact number of same in the current financial year;*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that aforesaid number of sale of automobiles shows considerable decline in sale of automobiles during aforesaid years; if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (c) *what corrective steps are being taken by the Government in this regard?*

Minister for Industries and Production (Mr. Muhammad Hammad Azhar): (a) Manufacture-wise number of sale of automobiles of the last three years along-with number of same in the current financial year as on December 30th, 2019 is at **Annex-A**.

(b) According to figures provided by industry, sales of automobiles in last Three years are as under:

FY2017-18 (July 01, 2017- June 30, 2018)	2,870,772
FY2018-19 (July 01, 2018- June 30, 2019)	3,092,243
FY2019-20 (July 2019-Dec., 2019)	1,289,021

Above data reveals that, the sales of automobiles have decreased slightly in FY 2019-20.

(c) Following measures have been taken by the current incumbent Government in this regard to strengthen automotive sector in Pakistan.

- iv. Preparation of Auto Industry Development and Export Plan (AIDEP) has been initiated as a follow up of ADP 2016-21. AIDC a recommending body approved by the ECC of the Cabinet has already recommended preparation of AIDEP in its 29th meeting.
- v. In order to introduce the International standards for safety, Pakistan has now been notified as contracting party to United

Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Working Party (WP)-29 regulations (1958 Agreement), which is a set of harmonized regulations for automobiles, by the UN office of Legal Affairs on 24th April, 2020. The regulations can be added in phase wise manner and their inclusion in vehicles can be ensured through inclusion in SRO 656(1)2006. Compliance to international UN regulations will help the car manufacturers achieve economies of scale/increase in production through exports.

- vi. This Division/ EDB has submitted summary for Electrical Vehicles (2-3 wheelers and Heavy Commercial Vehicles) which was approved by ECC and duly ratified by the Cabinet. The said summary was prepared in consultation with industry and stakeholders. This policy will help in mitigating negative aspects of climate change through reduction in emissions from transport sector, employment generation and reduction of external deficit through reduction in oil import bill.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

76. ***Jam Abdul Karim Bijar:**

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan is the one of largest consumer of antibiotics in the world and despite taking several remedial steps, such ratio, could not bring down; if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to create awareness among people, make antibiotics availability difficult, display awareness posters in Urdu and regional languages at public-private hospitals/clinics and printing of the usage of each antibiotics in clear terms at least in Urdu on the packing?*

Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination: (a) Pakistan is amongst largest consumer of antibiotics. The problem could not be fully controlled due to the following reasons:—

- Self-medication in more than 51 % of population.
- A large number of quacks who prescribe antibiotics.
- Availability of over-the-counter antibiotics.
- inappropriate prescription of antibiotics.

(b) Since 2017, Antibiotic Awareness Week is being observed for raising awareness about Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). A PC-1 worth 361.960 million on AMR has also been approved and its implementation is in process.

The following activities have been carried out during 2019-2020 in this context:

- National Institute of Health (NIH) in collaboration with WHO launched nation-wide campaign during world antibiotic awareness week.
- National Institute of Health (NIH) in collaboration with WHO distributed large size banners, caps and flyers in provinces. Moreover, posters, panaflex and standee flyers were placed at major pharmacies, metro, airports, and railway stations to spread Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) awareness in masses throughout Pakistan.
- NIH arranged a poster competition to create awareness amongst the young children.
- AMR awareness walk was organized by the NIH in collaboration with World Health Organization with the aim to raise awareness about the threat of antibiotic resistance and the importance of appropriate antibiotic prescribing.
- Seminars on prevention and control of Antimicrobial Resistance were arranged.
- Radio programme regarding AMR awareness
- Awareness walks regarding AMR
- Lecture session in COMSATS University Islamabad
- Posters have been translated in Urdu language and available on NIH website <https://www.nih.org.pk/antimicrobial-resistance/antimicrobial-resistance-awareness-material/>

77. ***Ch. Muhammad Hamid Hameed:**

Will the Minister for Water Resources be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total amount collected in Diemer Bhasha Dam through WAPDA, mobile companies, Supreme Court of Pakistan accounts and also through rail tickets;*
- (b) *the expenditure incurred upon the collection of Diemer Bhasha Dam and number of persons visited abroad alongwith the details of expenditure incurred in the country and abroad by the said persons; and*
- (c) *the number of Dams available in Pakistan and procedure adopted for the desilting alongwith the detail of Dams desilted so far?*

Minister for Water Resources (Mr. Muhammad Faisal Vawda):

(a) & (b) Honorable Supreme Court of Pakistan is Custodian of Dam Fund.

The information obtained from Supreme Court official website on 20-10-2020 is attached at **Annex-A**. The total amount up to date collection is Rs. 12,934,008,868.

WAPDA has not taken any amount from this fund to-date.

(c) In line with Pakistan National Register of Dams following are the details of dams in the country at present:

	Completed (No)	Capacity (MAF)
No. of Large dams	298	19.170
No. of Small/Medium Dams	171	0.054
Total No. of Dams	469	19.225

A copy of Pakistan Register of Dams is attached at **Annex-B**. It provides Provinces/Agency-wise detail of existing/ ongoing dams/proposed dams alongwith locations, capacity and category (Large, Medium & Small).

Federal Government is financing for construction of various small, medium and large dams in the country besides, delay action and recharge dam projects through Federal Public Sector Development Program. These projects aim at to provide water for irrigation/ agriculture, and drinking purposes.

List of ongoing small, medium and large water reservoirs/dams along with delay action dams being sponsored by the Federal Government and executed by WAPDA, provinces under the PSDP are given at **Annex-C**, Cumulative live storage capacity of small/medium/large dams is about 8,683,699 Acre-Feet.

De-silting is one of the engineering options to recover the storage capacity of any dam but on the other hand has huge financial implications and is practically very difficult for large dams. De-silting option of Tarbela reservoirs has been studied through several studies. The studies revealed that the option of de-silting is technically & economically unviable under the prevailing conditions.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

78. ***Mr. Abdul Qadir Patel:**

Will the Minister for Maritime Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that channel tax or any nomenclature thereof is collected by the KPT;*
- (b) if so, from whom such tax is collected alongwith details of year-wise collection of such tax during the last 6 years;*
- (c) where and how such tax is utilized; and*
- (d) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to rationalize the imposition of such tax; if so, the details of the same; if not, the reasons thereof?*

Minister for Maritime Affairs (Syed Ali Haider Zaidi): (a) KPT, as a Port Authority does not charge any channel tax. However, charges namely Tolls on Foils on Fishing Boats, “Hard and foreshore Fees & License Fees” are collected as per KPT Tariff / SRO from the owners of fishing boats.

Passengers boats, Water, Oil and Cargo Barges etc. copies of the relevant SRC's are attached herewith at Annex-I.

(b) The details of charges *i.e.* Tolls on Fishing Boats, Hard & Foreshore Fees and license Fees are attached as Annex-II & III.

(c) The above Collected Fees / charges are utilized for Procurement, Installation & Repair / Maintenance of Harbour facilities, Buoys, Construction & Maintenance of Jetties including those facilities used by General Public.

(d) At present there is no proposal under consideration regarding imposition of any-charges on residents of coastal areas for commuting / travelling in between different Island.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

79. ***Dr. Nafisa Shah:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state the details of profit/loss of freight Trains since last two years?

Minister for Railways (Sheikh Rashid Ahmed): There are no losses incurred by freight trains during last two years. Year wise earning figures of freight trains are as under. It is quite evident that total profit of Rs.12276 million has been earned by freight trains in last two years.

**Two year average freight trains profit/loss
(2018-19 to 2019- 20) Rs. (in million)**

Year	Earning	Expenditure	Profit/loss
2018-19	18853	12950	+5903
2019-20	19208	12835	+6373
Total	38061	25785	+12276

80. ***Mir Munwar Ali Talpur:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names and number of trains which are operational from Karachi to Hyderabad and Mirpur Khas alongwith the number of stops discontinued; and*
- (b) *the reasons for stopping Railways Stations stops which are discontinued and the time by which trains stop will be operational?*

Minister for Railways (Sheikh Rashid Ahmed): (a) At present following 18 trains are operational from Karachi to Hyderabad while no train is operational from Karachi to Mirpur Khas.

No.	Name of train
1	Shalimar Express
2	Hazara Express
3	Awam Express
4	Rehman Baba Express
5	Pakistan Express
6	Allama Iqbal Express
7	Karakoram Express
8	Pak Business Express
9	Millat Express
10	Karachi Express
11	Tezgam
12	Bahauddin Zakria Express
13	Shah Hussain Express
14	Fareed Express
15	Sir Syed Express
16	Green Line
17	Khyber Mail
18	Sukkur Express

The following five (5) stops of trains running between KYC-HDR have been discontinued.

Drig Road	Landhi	Bin Qasim	JANG Shahi	Jhimpir
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(b) Certain stops of trains are discontinued under the pursuance of SOPs issued to contain the COVID-19. However, all the discontinued stops will be restored *w.e.f.* 15-10-2020.

81. ***Ms. Zille Huma:**

Will the Minister for National Food Security and Research be pleased to state the details of new vehicles and machinery purchased by agriculture department for locust operation by present Government?

Minister for National Food Security and Research (Syed Fakhar Imam): Department of Plant Protection informed that department has not purchased any machinery / new vehicle so far and they also informed that NDMA purchased new equipment and machinery for the Locust operation, detail of which is given as under:

- i. 83 Micro ULV Sprayers.
- ii. 1 Lac 75000 ULV Pesticides.
- iii. 40 ULV Indigenous Sprayers.

82. ***Mr. Muhammad Riaz:**

Will the Minister for Water Resources be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether the Federal Government is constructing any new dams/ water reservoirs;*
- (b) *if so, where and the time by which same would be constructed?*

Minister for Water Resources (Mr. Muhammad Faisal Vawda): (a) & (b) Federal Government is providing funds for construction of Sixty (60) small, medium, large and delay action/recharge dam projects in the country through Federal Public Sector Development Program. These projects aim to provide water for irrigation/ agriculture, and drinking purposes.

List of ongoing small, medium and large dams along with delay action dams being sponsored by the Federal Government and executed by WAPDA,

provinces under the PSDP are given at **Annex-A**. Cumulative live storage capacity of small/medium/large dams is about 8,683,699 Acre-Feet. Detail of Dams projects which are at planning stage is attached at **Annex-B**.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

83. ***Mr. Muhammad Afzal Khokhar:**

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

- (a) *the city-wise total number of Government quarters/houses throughout the country at present; and*
- (b) *the city-wise total number of new Government quarters/houses constructed during the present regime till-date?*

Minister for Housing and Works (Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema): (a) The city-wise total number of Government quarters/ houses throughout the country at present is placed at Annex-I.

(b) No. Government accommodation has been constructed during the present regime.

Annex-A

**GOVERNMENT ACCOMMODATION
(STATION WISE)**

STATION	NO OF GOVT ACCOMMODATION
ISLAMABAD	17496
KARACHI	7882
LAHORE	1934
PESHAWAR	669
QUETTA	498
TOTAL	28479

84. ***Mr. Muhammad Riaz:**

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state the names of cities of Pakistan where anti rabies vaccines manufactured monthly during the last five years alongwith the quantity of said manufactured vaccines?

Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination: At present, Anti-Rabies Vaccine is only manufactured locally in Islamabad by the National Institute of Health, Islamabad, which was granted registration in 2018 and since then number of lots released by National Control Laboratory of Biologicals of DRAP are as under;

Calendar Year 2019:

Month	Total Lots	Total Vials (single dose)
Feb	03	46,148
Mar	02	31,290
May	02	29,663
Aug	01	15,575
Sep	01	15,492
Oct	06	78,039
Total: 15		Total: 216,207

Calendar Year 2020:

Month	Total Lots	Total Vials (single dose)
Jan	03	46,693
Feb	02	32,466
Mar	02	32,698
Total: 07		Total: 111,857

Total Lots	22	Total Vials	328,064
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85. ***Choudhary Faqir Ahmad:**

Will the Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Ministry has, recently, auctioned its old building, where it was earlier stationed in G-6, Islamabad;*
- (b) if so, whether codal formalities have been fulfilled particularly with reference to details of individuals/companies/parties participated in the auction and details of individuals/companies/parties, which were disqualified alongwith reasons thereof;*
- (c) whether such disqualified individuals/companies/parties appealed against their disqualification to appellate authority; if so, the details thereof;*
- (d) whether one or more beneficiary of successful individuals/companies/parties of such auction has any business or allegedly otherwise having associations either with Minister or any other functionary of the Ministry; if so, the details thereof;*
- (e) if anyone has such association as mentioned above; and*
- (f) whether it is not a conflict of interest; if so, what remedial steps are being taken by the Government in this regard?*

Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony (Mr. Noor-ul-Haq Qadri): (a) Yes. ETP Board offered ground floor of its building No.20, G-6 Islamabad (vacated by M/o Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony) for rent through open public auction.

- (b) Codal formalities were completed and no disqualification.
- (c) No disqualification and no appeal.
- (d) No. This is not in the knowledge of Ministry / ETPB. Auction Committee recommended Auction proceedings for approval.
- (e) No.

(f) In advertisement, it is categorically mentioned that “Government employee cannot participate in the auction”. Further no such conflict of interest is reported from any quarter.

86. ***Syed Javed Ali Shah Jillani:**

Will the Minister for National Food Security and Research be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that our cotton crop has reduced from 1.5 cror to 85 lac bails;*
- (b) *whether Government has taken notice of the said decrease; and*
- (c) *whether Government is taking steps to improve cotton crop alongwith complete details in this regard?*

Minister for National Food Security and Research (Syed Fakhar Imam): (a) Yes, it is fact that our cotton crop has decreased and the production during 2019-20 was 9.1 million bales. The main reasons in this connection are elaborated as under:

- * Substandard, illegal and uncertified seed was big hurdle in achieving cotton production target.
- * High temperature especially in the month of September, which caused loss in flower shedding.
- * Farmers shifted their focus on other crops i.e. Maize, Rice and Sugarcane.
- * Pest attack of white fly and Pink bollworm etc.
- * Higher input prices,
- * Climate change and untimely rains.

(b) The Government has taken notice and is working on war footing to enhance the cotton production. Government is working on 3 point agenda to achieve the target of 15 million bales:

- a. Increase of area to achieve 15 million bales.
- b. Availability of pure certified seed.
- c. Full concentration on quality pesticides.

- (c) * Pakistan Central Cotton Committee (PCCC) along with provincial governments have developed varieties of high quality seeds and introduced production technology that best suits the changing environment.
- * The Government has approved multi-billion packages to boost agriculture and support farmers. The package includes subsidy on fertilizers, cotton seed and white fly pesticides, reduced bank markup on agriculture loans and sales tax subsidy on local tractors.
 - * Government is also working on support price for cotton which would help to raise the confidence of farmers, resulting area will be increased and ultimately production will increase in future.
 - * Workshop and seminars also are being held for the awareness of farmers to promote the size of cotton area and production.
 - * Government is also going to introduce hedge trading to get more profitability.

87. ***Ch. Muhammad Hamid Hameed:**

Will the Minister for Water Resources be pleased to state the total number of dams in Pakistan alongwith the criterion for de-silting them and the number of dams which have been de-silted?

Minister for Water Resources (Mr. Muhammad Faisal Vawda): In line with Pakistan National Register of Dams following are the details of dams in the country at present:

	Completed (No)	Capacity (MAF)
No. of Large dams	298	19.170
No. of Small/Medium Dams	171	0.054
Total No. of Dams	469	19.225

A copy of Pakistan Register of Dams is attached at **Annex-A**. It provides Provinces/Agency-wise detail of existing/ ongoing dams/proposed dams along with locations, capacity and category (Large, Medium & Small).

Federal Government is financing for construction of various small, medium and large dams in the country besides, delay action and recharge dam projects through Federal Public Sector Development Program. These projects aim at to provide water for irrigation/ agriculture, and drinking purposes.

List of ongoing small, medium and large water reservoirs/dams along with delay action dams being sponsored by the Federal Government and executed by WAPDA, provinces under the PSDP are given at **Annex-B**, Cumulative live storage capacity of small/medium/large dams is about 8,683,699 Acre-Feet.

De-silting is one of the engineering options to recover the storage capacity of any dam but on the other hand has huge financial implications and is practically very difficult for large dams. De-silting option of Tarbela reservoirs has been studied through several studies. The studies revealed that the option of de-silting is technically & economically unviable under prevailing conditions.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

88. ***Shazia Marri:**

Will the Minister for Industries and Production be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government in recent times, has assessed the export potential of micro, small and medium enterprises; if so, the details thereof alongwith export potential of each of micro, small and medium enterprise;*
- (b) whether it is a fact that in traditional trade policies in recent times, incentives have not been extended to micro, small and medium enterprises, as compared to large enterprises; if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (c) what steps are being taken to extend special incentives to micro, small and medium enterprises to boost the export of the country?*

Transferred to Commerce Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

ISLAMABAD:
The 22nd October, 2020

TAHIR HUSSAIN,
Secretary.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

“UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND THEIR REPLIES”

For Friday, the 23rd October, 2020

24. **Mr. Saad Waseem:**
(Deferred during 20th Session)

Will the Minister for Housing and Works be pleased to refer to the Un-Starred Question No.39 replied on 15-01-2020 and to state:

- (a) *the date and time by which allotted House to said employee is going to be vacated;*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that Government accommodation which has been allotted to said employee is not going to vacate in near future by present allottee;*
- (c) *whether it is also a fact that such allotment is equal to pacify the said employee and it is tantamount to malpractice on the part of Estate Office; and*
- (d) *what steps are being taken by the Government to allot first available House to said employee?*

Minister for Housing and Works (Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema):(a) The accommodation allotted to Mr. Muhammad Tariq, Assistant, National Assembly Secretariat is under occupation of WAPDA employee. The Honorable High Court in its W.P.No.1758/2019 directed to Secretary Ministry of Housing & Works and Ministry of Power & Energy to devise a mechanism for reverting back the Government accommodations to Estate' Office pool within six months *i.e.* up to 05/09/2020.

- (b) As above.

(c) As above.

(d) As above

3. **Mr. Sher Akbar Khan:**
(Deferred during 26th Session)

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that Federal Government Employees Housing Authority received a sum of Rs.25,000/- from the officers of grade 18 and 19 as membership fee during 2009 and later on an amounting 0.5 million again charged in 2016 from them;*
- (b) *if so, the time by which allotment letters will be issued to them after handing over possession of the plots; and*
- (c) *what are the reasons for making delay in this regard?*

Minister for Housing and Works (Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema): (a) After initial registration, down payment has been charged to make payment of land & infrastructure development. As per FGE Housing Authority policy, membership fee Rs. 25000/- and down payment Rs. 0.5 million was received in 2009 and 2016 respectively from category-III applicants (BPS 16-17). Regarding, Green Enclave-II, however, category wise detail of membership fee and down payment is as under:-

CAT	BPS	Membership fee	Down payment
I	20-22	100,000	1,000,000
II	18-19	50,000	600,000
III	16-17	25,000	500,000
IV	10-15	15,000	350,000
V	01-09	5,000	250,000

- (b)
- As per construction agreement signed in December, 2019, development will be completed within a period of two year.

- *Approval of layout plan already accorded.*
- *Revised payment schedule is being issued to all allottees.*
- *Almost 13% physical progress is achieved at site.*
- *Construction of bridge and access road is in process.*
- *Possession will be handed over to allottees by December, 2021.*

(c) Annex-A

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

29. **Syed Mehmood Shah:**

Will the Minister for Railway be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that appointment letters are not being issued to those candidates who were declared successful through balloting in respect of Class-IV posts in Quetta Division; if so, the reasons thereof and the time by which same would be issued to them; and*
- (b) *the detail of names of the successful candidates?*

Minister for Railways (Sheikh Rashid Ahmed): (a) No balloting has been carried out due to the reasons that Miss Muqadas Farooq filed C.P No. 1318/2019 before Honourable Balochistan High Court, Quetta V/S Federation of Pakistan. The Honourable Court has suspended the amendment in the Civil Servant Appointment, Promotion & Transfer Rules No. 14,15 & 16 of 1973 (Annex-A). In the light of Honourable Court orders the process of recruitment was stopped till further orders.

- (b) The results were not displayed due to the above reasons.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

30. **Moulana Abdul Akbar Chitrali:**

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that there is a mistake in Membership Drive Phase-II updated by the Federal Government Employees Housing Authority of designation as a Deputy Secretary instead of Joint Secretary, against CNIC No.61101-1874809-1;*
- (b) *whether attention was invited to the concerned for many times for rectification of above; if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons thereof; and*
- (c) *the time by which same will be corrected?*

Minister for Housing and Works (Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema): (a) The IT Wing of the FGE Housing Authority has made necessary amendment/correction in the data base against CNIC # 61101-1874809-1. The data sheet is hereby enclosed **Annex-A**.

(b) Correction has been made in the data. However, about two lac applicants got registered themselves for allotment in Membership Drive II. Whereas thousands of applicants submitted requests for rectification/correction in the data base and as per their requests FGEHA made correction in the data base.

(c) The record is now updated.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

31. **Moulana Abdul Akbar Chitrali:**

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

- (a) *whether plots to employees of the National Assembly Secretariat were not allotted by the Ministry since 1995; if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (b) *the category-wise plots to be allotted to said employees alongwith the details thereof?*

Minister for Housing and Works (Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema): (a) The 118 plots have been allotted to the employees of National Assembly Secretariat by Federal Government Employees Housing Authority at **Annex-A**.

(b) The category wise detail of plots to be allotted to the employees of National Assembly Secretariat is at **Annex-B**.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

32. **Dr. Nafisa Shah:**

Will the Minister for National Food Security and Research be pleased to state what steps have taken by the Government to enhance the production of cotton crops in the country?

Minister for National Food Security and Research (Syed Fakhar Imam): Government is working on 3 point agenda to achieve the target of 15 million bales:

- i. Increase in area to achieve 15 million bales.
 - ii. Availability of pure certified seed.
 - iii. Ensure quality pesticides.
- Pakistan Central Cotton Committee (PCCC) along with provincial governments have developed varieties of high quality seeds and introduced production technology that best suits the changing environment.
 - The Government has approved multi-billion packages to boost agriculture, support farmers. The package includes subsidy on fertilizers, cotton seed and white fly pesticides, reduced bank markup on agriculture loans and sales tax subsidy on local tractors.
 - Government is also working on support price for cotton which would help to raise the confidence of farmers, resulting area will be increased and ultimately production will increase in future.
 - Workshop and seminars also are being held for the awareness of farmers to promote the size of cotton area and production.
 - Government is also going to introduce hedge trading to get more profitability.

33. **Dr. Nafisa Shah:**

Will the Minister for National Food Security and Research be pleased to state:

- (a) *the detail of mechanism of subsidy given on fertilizer and its impact on agriculture for last two years; and*
- (b) *the detail of agriculture policy with reference to growth rate and its impact on export since last two years?*

Minister for National Food Security and Research (Syed Fakhar Imam): (a) There was no cash subsidy on fertilizers at federal level during last two years. However, different budgeted & non-budgeted subsidies in the form of cheap feed gas, subsidized LNG and subsidy on imported urea were in practice.

- i. Feed gas is provided at subsidized rate (Rs. 300 per MMBTU) compared with fuel gas (Rs. 1021 per MMBTU) and this difference (Rs. 721 per MMBTU) is considered as subsidy.
- ii. Price of LNG was normally around US \$ 9 (Rs. 1395) to 10 \$ (Rs. 1550) per MMBTU which is not affordable for fertilizer industry as price of domestic gas used as feed is highly subsidized. Therefore, LNG was provided at Rs.945 per MMBTU for fertilizer production and the difference was borne by Government of Pakistan (GOP) as subsidy.
- iii. Price of urea in international market is higher as compared with local market. Therefore GOP has to provide subsidy (Rs. 1194 per bag) on imported urea in order to equate the price difference between domestic and international market.

Impact of fertilizer subsidies on Agriculture

- Subsidy on LNG has resulted in reduced reliance on import as only 101 thousand ton of the urea was imported during fiscal year 2019-20.

- Operationalization of Fatima Fert and Agritech has resulted in improved availability at peak demand time and stability in fertilizer prices.
- Price of feed gas is subsidized for fertilizer industry since start of fertilizer production in Pakistan in late 1950's, therefore its impact is difficult to assess however prices of urea in domestic market always remain lower as compared to international market showing the benefit of cheap feed gas.

(b) Agriculture is one of the largest sector of the economy of Pakistan. The present Government, realizing the potential of agriculture and taking cognizance of the challenges/issues, has introduced "Prime Minister Agriculture Emergency Programme" worth Rs. 277 billion to revolutionize the agriculture and livestock sectors and establishing new agriculture markets. Also the Government timely adopted the policy of smart lock-down during COVID-19, which not only helped sustain the growth but also reduce the impact of the pandemic on the sector.

During the last two years, the Agriculture GDP has been observed growing by 0.6. During 2019-20, the sector growth was 2.7 percent. Positive growth of 2.90 percent in important crops was observed due to an increase in production of wheat, rice, and maize at 2.45, 2.89 and 6.01 percent, respectively. Other crops have shown growth of 4.57 percent mainly because of an increase in the production of pulses, oilseeds, and vegetables. Cotton ginning has declined by 4.61 percent due to a decrease in the production of the cotton crop while the Livestock sector has shown a growth of 2.58 percent. The growth in forestry and Fishing remained 2.29 and 0.60 percent respectively. Details of exports are annexed.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

34. **Mr. Muhammad Aslam Khan:**

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

- whether it is a fact that the sewerage system of Block No.54, Category-V, Sector I-9/4, Islamabad is in extremely dilapidated condition;*
- whether it is also a fact that all the pipes of block have been*

broken down and the waste of entire block falls on ground due to which there is an apprehension of spreading diseases;

- (c) *whether it is further a fact that as a result residents of this block are facing extreme inconvenience; and*
- (d) *the steps being taken by the Government to repair the aforesaid pipes?*

Reply not received.

35. **Mr. Muhammad Afzal Khokhar:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state whether is there any proposal under consideration of the Government to ply new trains from Peshawar to Sargodha and Rawalpindi to Karachi; if so, the time by which trains will be made operational on such routes?

Minister for Railways (Sheikh Rashid Ahmed): At present, due to COVID-19, limited trains are operating i.e only 60 against 142 trains in UP &Down direction. Therefore, there is no proposal under consideration for starting new trains from Peshawar to Sargodha and Rawalpindi to Karachi at the moment. At present following trains are running between Rawalpindi to Karachi.

S#	Name of Train	From To
1	Khyber Mail	Peshawar – Rawalpindi- Karachi
2	Pakistan Express	Rawalpindi – Karachi
3	Tezgam	Rawalpindi - Karachi
4	Awam Express	Peshawar - Rawalpindi - Karachi
5	Rehman Baba Express	Peshawar - Rawalpindi - Karachi
6	Sir Syed Express	Rawalpindi – Karachi
7	Hazara Express	Havelian – Rawalpindi - Karachi

However, No train is plying between Peshawar to Sargodha.

- (b) The operation of new trains can be considered, when full trains operation will be resumed and keeping in view commercial viability.

36. **Mr. Muhammad Afzal Khokhar:**

Will the Minister for National Food Security and Research be pleased to state the year-wise yield of Sugar-cane and Cotton crops in the country during the last ten years?

Minister for National Food Security and Research(Syed Fakhar Imam): Year-wise yield of sugarcane and cotton crops during last 10 years are given below:

Sugarcane

Year	Production (million tons)	Yield Tons/ hectare
2010-11	55.309	55.98
2011-12	58.397	55.19
2012-13	63.750	56.46
2013-14	67.460	57.51
2014-15	62.652	54.91
2015-16	65.482	57.89
2016-17	75.482	61.97
2017-18	83.333	62.05
2018-19	67.174	60.95
2019-20	67.151	64.31

Source: Pakistan Economic Survey.

Cotton

Year	Production (million bales)	Yield Tons/ hectare
2010-11	11.391	0.720
2011-12	13.486	0.821
2012-13	12.926	0.774
2013-14	12.668	0.778
2014-15	13.850	0.806
2015-16	9.819	0.582

2016-17	10.57	0.733
2017-18	11.98	0.765
2018-19	10.70	0.706
2019-20	9.181	0.617

37. **Syed Agha Rafiullah:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total length of railways tracks laid in the country in year 1947; and*
- (b) *the total length of railways tracks are available presently in the country?*

Minister for Railways (Sheikh Rashid Ahmed): (a) Detail of track laid in the country till 1947 is as under:

Description	Route KMs	Running Tracks KMs	Loop Yards & Sidings	Total KMs Track
Broad Gauge	7131	8040	2609	10649
Meter & Narrow Gauge	1035	1035	77	1112

(b) Length of track at present in the country.

Description	Route KMs	Running Tracks KMs	Loop Yards & Sidings	Total KMs Track
Broad Gauge	7479	8883	2609	11492
Meter & Narrow Gauge	312	312	77	389

38. **Mr. Muhammad Riaz:**

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state whether the number of Corona patients in the country are gradually decreasing at present?

Reply not received.

39. **Sheikh Rohale Asghar:**

Will the Minister for National Food Security and Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the annually, total quantity of cotton was found/observed more than domestic need during the last ten years; and

(b) the detail of head under which said cotton used?

Minister for National Food Security and Research (Syed Fakhar Imam): (a) Production of cotton remained less than the domestic need. Year-wise detail of production and consumption is presented in the table below:-

	('000' bales)	
Year	Production	Consumption
2010-11	11460	14331
2011-12	13595	14178
2012-13	13031	14209
2013-14	12769	14513
2014-15	13960	14500
2015-16	9917	12633
2016-17	10671	13060
2017-18	11946	14749
2018-19	9861	12085
2019-20*	9178	11019

Source: Pakistan Central Cotton Committee

(b) The break-up of cotton production which was used in last ten years is given as under:-

Year	Production	Quantity ('000' Bales)	
		Sales to Textile Mill	Sales to exporters
2010-11	11460	10938	541
2011-12	13595	13435	1101
2012-13	13031	12162	353
2013-14	12769	12584	399
2014-15	13960	14073	475
2015-16	9917	9057	362
2016-17	10671	10259	202
2017-18	11946	11085	217
2018-19	9861	10317	108
2019-20*	9181	8009	59

Source:- (i) PCCC (For Production)

(ii) PCGA (Sales to Textile Mill & Sales to Exporters)

40. **Mr. Muhammad Aslam Khan:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

(a) *whether it is a fact that Thal Express was operational from Rawalpindi to Multan daily at morning and evening but only one train is operational daily at present; if so, reasons thereof; and*

(b) *the time by which other train is intended to be made operational?*

Minister for Railways (Sheikh Rashid Ahmed): (a) It is not a fact that Thal Express was operational daily from Rawalpindi to Multan at morning and evening. It was running only in the morning before the suspension of train operations due to COVID-19 and has not yet been restored.

At present only one train i.e Mehr Express is operational between RWP & MUL in the evening time.

(b) Trains are being restored gradually in phases. Thal Express will also be restored as and when announced by the government.

41. **Mr. Saad Waseem:**

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that there is an agreement between Federal Government Employees Housing Authority Islamabad (FGEHA) for the purchase of land from Jammu and Kashmir Cooperative Housing Society (JKCHS) Zone-II, Islamabad; if so, the details thereof;*
- (b) *how much land has been purchased by FGEHA Islamabad from JKCHS Zone-II, Islamabad; if so, the details thereof; and*
- (c) *how much payment is due; if so, the details thereof?*

Minister for Housing and Works Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema): (a), (b), & (c) The FGE Housing Authority has not signed any agreement for purchase of land with Jammu and Kashmir Cooperative Housing Society (JKCHS)

Zone-II, Islamabad.

42. **Mr. Asmatullah:**

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the students belonging to Balochistan have to face inconvenience while getting accommodation in the hostel of PIMS, Islamabad;*

(b) *if so, the time by which they will be provided accommodation in the said hostel as well as the action taken against the persons responsible therefor?*

Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination: (a) There is no discrimination in allotment of hostel rooms as regards the domicile. PIMS offers and caters the whole country for the doctor's training. Hostel rooms are allotted according to the Policy (**Annex-A**).

(b) Doctors get the rooms allotment as per policy according to the seniority in the waiting list.

Hospital administration is trying hard to minimize the waiting time.

The last allotment was done on 22-09-2020 and four doctors of Balochistan domicile got allotment of the rooms in addition to already resident doctors living in the hostel with Balochistan domicile.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

ISLAMABAD:
The 22nd October, 2020.

TAHIR HUSSAIN,
Secretary.