

(2nd Group, 52nd Session)

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 21st July, 2023

196. ***Mr. Sikandar Ali Rahoupoto:**
(Deferred during 50th Session)

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state the reason for not starting work on the project for the extension of Federal Government Polyclinic, Islamabad, as per the plan made during the tenure of previous Government (2013-2018) keeping in view the rampant increase in the population of Islamabad?

Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination (Mr. Abdul Qadir Patel): Federal Government Polyclinic, Post Graduate Medical Institute.

The project titled “Establishment of Federal Government Polyclinic (PGMI)-II in G-11/3, Islamabad” was approved by the CDWP (Central Development Working Party) at Rs. 9,913.730 million on **29-11-2021 with duration of 3 years (commencing from start of work)**, with Infrastructure Development Authority of Punjab (IDAP) Lahore as the Executing and M/o NHR&C as Sponsoring agency for the said project on turn-key basis.

The Chinese contractor M/S CCECC-Salman JV had won the international tender floated by IDAP. The work could not start due to some differences in drawings and field demarcation by the CDA, as indicated by the IDAP team. The CDA teams revisited the site and final demarcation was conveyed.

A letter of commencement was issued by IDAP to CCEC-SJV on 21-03-2023. The field teams of contractor have been mobilized and **work on site has commenced.** The contract has been signed between the contractor and IDAP and excavation works have been initiated by the contractor.

The Project Director of IDAP has conveyed that the project will be completed within next three years subject to provision of adequate funds, according to fieldwork phasing.

197. ***Mr. Sikandar Ali Rahoupoto:**
(*Deferred during 50th Session*)

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

- (a) *the number of Ventilators available in each Government Hospital/Dispensary in Islamabad;*
- (b) *the number of dysfunctional ventilators of the above in Hospitals alongwith the reasons thereof; and*
- (c) *the total number of new ventilators purchased for each said hospital/dispensary during last five years?*

Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination (Mr. Abdul Qadir Patel): (a), (b) and (c) The hospital wise reply of the said question is as below:

(i) **PIMS:**

- (a) Total 76 ventilators are in various components of PIMS out of which 66 are functional, detail is enclosed at **Annex-A**.
- (b) There are a total 10 non-functional ventilators, out of which 07 ventilators need replacement of parts and 03 ventilators are obsolete models for which parts are not available.
- (c) During last five years no, new ventilators have been purchased by PIMS.

(ii) **Polyclinic:**

- (a) The total number of ventilators working in Federal Government Polyclinic Hospital, Department / ward wise details is as follows:

S. #	Name of department	Quantity
1	Medical ICU	26
2	Surgical ICU	14
3	NICU	03
4	Pead ICU	02
5	Isolation ICU	09
6	CCU	02
	Total	56

- (b) The total number of ventilators dysfunctional in FGPC is 12, department / ward wise details is as follows;

S. #	Name of department	Quantity	Remarks
1	Medical ICU	06	Repairable, estimated time 6 months
2	Surgical ICU	04	
3	NICU	02	Repairable, estimated time 3 months
	Total	12	

- (c) 20 Ventilators were purchased through project titled as “Strengthening of Intensive Care Unit (ICU) a Federal Government Polyclinic, Hospital Islamabad” and during COVID-19, 24 ventilators for donation were received from NDMA & UNHCR.

(iii) **NIRM:**

- (a) No Ventilator is available in the National Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine (NIRM), Islamabad. The reply on behalf of NIRM may please be treated as **NIL**.
- (b) Nil.
- (c) Nil.

(iv) **FGH:**

- (a) There are 02 ventilators in FGH. Both are functional
- (b) Nil.
- (c) Nil.

Annex-A**COMPLETE DETAILS OF VENTILATORS**

Department	Total Ventilators	Functional Ventilators	Non Functional Ventilators	Remarks
Islamabad Hospital & Cardiac Centre	40	33	7	Replacement of parts in process
Burn Care Centre	08	08	0	
Mother Care Hospital	03	03	0	
Children Hospital	25	22	03	Obsolete model parts not available
Total	76	66	10	

199. ***Mr. James Iqbal:**
(*Transferred from 51st Session*)

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

- (a) *the steps taken by Government for the complete revival of Pakistan Steel Mills Karachi and to curtail its losses; and*
- (b) *the details of benefits of above will be occurred?*

Minister for Industries and Production (Syed Murtaza Mahmud): (a) Following steps have been taken by the Government for rehabilitation of Pakistan Steel Mills (PSM), Karachi:

- Government has decided to Privatize PSM for its revival. Privatization Process is now at an advanced stage.
- In line with the CCoP decision, a new Company namely Steel Corps (Pvt.) Limited has been established and registered with Securities & Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP).
- As a result of CCoP decision, PSM Management has identified the Core Assets to be transferred to new Company. The new Company will be wholly owned by the GoP.
- Being a statutory requirement, PSM filed Scheme of Arrangement (SOA) with SECP and got it approved by SECP.
- PSM obtained NOC from National Bank of Pakistan and Habib Bank Ltd (Lead bank of consortium loan). Progressing forward for obtaining NOC from SSGC.
- PSM got NOC from NEPRA to transfer its generation license in the name of Steel Corp (Pvt.) Ltd.
- In order to minimize the financial liabilities and cut-off losses, PSM initiated a Human Resource Rationalization plan by way retrenchment of 100% employees.

In line with decision of PSM Board, PSM retrenched its 5,800 Employees (Regular officers & Staff and Contract employees) till date.

(b) Millions of rupees are saved per month as a result of employees retrenchment, before retrenchment Government of Pakistan was paying net salaries of PSM employees @ of Rs. 350 million/ month in the form of loan which after retrenchment has come down to Rs. 100 million per month.

Furthermore, the privatization process is in progress and not concluded yet, therefore, benefits achieved thereof cannot be ascertained fully at the moment.

200. ***Ms. Shamim Ara Panhwar:**
(*Transferred from 51st Session*)

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the number of hepatitis patients is continuously increasing in the country; if so, reasons thereof?

Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination (Mr. Abdul Qadir Patel): Yes, the number of hepatitis patients is increasing in Pakistan especially of hepatitis C. According to the National hepatitis B and C seroprevalence survey carried out by Pakistan Medical Research Council (PMRC) in 2008; the prevalence of hepatitis B was 2.5% and hepatitis C was 5%. This prevalence was seen increased in the surveys carried out in 2018 and 2019 by Punjab and Sindh governments respectively as follows:

- i. Government of Punjab carried out a hepatitis B and C survey in 2018 in which hepatitis B prevalence was 2.2% and hepatitis C prevalence was 8.19%.
- ii. Government of Sindh conducted a hepatitis B and C survey in 2019 showing hepatitis B prevalence as 1.05% and hepatitis C prevalence as 6.2%.

Possible Reasons of Increased spread of the disease:

Following are the most significant reasons/risk factors for the rapid transmission of the disease;

- (1) Unsafe blood transfusions
- (2) Re-use of therapeutic injections and syringes
- (3) Poor infection control practices at health care facilities (improper sterilized medical, surgical, and dental equipment)
- (4) Sharing of razors and use of infected instruments by Barbers
- (5) Tattooing and ear piercing.

5. ***Ms. Shamim Ara Panhwar:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of Railway Stations in the country where water filtration plants have been installed; and*
- (b) the names of the stations where water filtration plants have not been installed?*

Minister for Railways (Khawaja Saad Rafique): (a) The names of Railway stations in the country where water filtration plants have been installed is attached as **Annexure-A**.

(b) The names of Railway stations where water filtration plants have not been installed is attached as **Annexure-B**.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

ISLAMABAD:
The 20th July, 2023.

TAHIR HUSSAIN,
Secretary.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

“UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND THEIR REPLIES”**For Friday, the 21st July, 2023****3. Ms. Shamim Ara Panhwar:**

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

- (a) the details of the reasons for shortage of wheat and sugar in the country during the last six months; and*
- (b) whether the concerned officers/officials were held responsible by the Government for this shortage?*

Minister for National Food Security and Research (Mr. Tariq Bashir Cheema): (a) Net availability of wheat, as reported by Provincial Crop Reporting Services (CRS) for the year 2023-24 is at the level of 29.39 MMT. This includes production of 27.80 MMT and carry forward Stocks of 1.59 MMT. The reported production is the highest in the history and sufficient for the national human consumption. However, in order to maintain strategic reserves of 2MMT, Government has taken necessary steps for the import of wheat.

In case of Sugar total availability at the start of current season was at 7.681 MMT, including carry-forward stock of 0.991 MMT. After consuming 4.496 MMT of sugar, the net stocks left are 3.21 MMT, as on 30-06-2023. These Stocks would be sufficient to meet domestic consumption requirement before the start of next crushing season.

(b) Concerned Agencies have been advised to beef up/control measures at the borders to curb the menace of cross border leakages and to help meet the domestic consumption requirement.

4. Jam Abdul Karim Bijar:

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the trains plying from Hyderabad to Badin has been closed during last year;*
- (b) *the people are facing huge difficulties; if so, the reasons thereof;*
- (c) *whether there is any proposal under consideration by the Government to ply the trains on the above said route;*
- (d) *if so, the time by which the trains on the above said route will be made functional and rehabilitated to facilitate the public?*

Minister for Railways (Khawaja Saad Rafique): (a) It is apprised that Badin Express (179-Up/180-Dn) was plying between Hyderabad – Badin which was discontinued on 25-03-2020. However, no train service was cancelled during last year.

(b) The said train was suspended along with all other trains plying on the railway network due to COVID-19. To ensure quality of service, limited number of trains were restored in phased manner.

(c) Given the fiscal position of Pakistan Railways, restoration of train has been initiated in a phased manner mainly for trains having financial viability.

(d) As in para c.

5. **Ms. Shamim Ara Panhwar:**

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state the number of persons died due to Corona Virus in the country?

Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination (Mr. Abdul Qadir Patel): According to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) Centre for Disease Control (CDC) National Institute of Health (NIH), the total number deaths are 30,664 due to Covid-19 up to 10th July, 2023. Detail is (**Annexed**).

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

ISLAMABAD:
The 20th July, 2023.

TAHIR HUSSAIN,
Secretary.