

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

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

Wednesday, the 31st March, 2010

98. ***Mir Wali Muhammad Badini:** (Notice received on 01-03-2010 at 09:05 a.m.)

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

(a) *the quantity of fertilizer provided to Balochistan during the last two years; and*

(b) *the names of the dealers through whom the said fertilizer was provided?*

Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani: (a) The quantity of urea fertilizer provided to Balochistan during the last two years was 359,000 metric tons, out of this, 341,918 metric tons was supplied by local manufacturers through their own dealers network, and a small portion of 17,082 metric tons imported urea was supplied by National Fertilizer Marketing Limited (NFML). Local production of urea fertilizer is 75% to 80% of national requirement, whereas 20% to 25% shortfall is met through imports.

(ii) As per policy of the Government 2% quota of imported urea was earmarked for Balochistan, but sale was made according to actual demand of area, so out of 39,000 metric tons quota, a quantity of 17,082 metric tons as per demand was sold in Balochistan by NFML during the last two years.

(iii) Private sector manufacturers/importers supplied the following fertilizers to Balochistan during 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.

Quantity in metric tons

<u>DAP</u>	<u>NP</u>	<u>CAN</u>	<u>NPKs</u>
59,000	9,000	5,000	6,000

(b) The names of the NFML dealers through whom fertilizer was provided in Balochistan are as under:—

Sr. No.	AGY. No.	Dealers Name	AGY. Point
1.	900359	Pakistan Fertilizer Agency	Salhot Pus
2.	900414	Khalsa Dealers	Usta Muhammad
3.	900427	Royal Fertilizer Agency	Dera Murad Jamali
4.	900430	Vanish Fertilizer	Dera Allah Yar

5.	940212	Manish Traders	Sibi
6.	970017	Salahuddin	Turbat
7.	830474	Abdul Ali Fertilizer Agency	Chaman
8.	940128	Lal Chand Gurmukh Das	Sibi
9.	940238	Lal Khad Dealers	Dodhair
10.	900443	Jahangir Usto	Usta Muhammad
11.	820387	Al Sadat Khad Dealer	Quetta
12.	820390	Syed Adul Zahir	Quetta
13.	840105	Sirajuddin	Qila Saifullah
14.	820400	Karim Khad Dealer	Quetta
15.	940186	Hafiz Fertilizer Agency	Hernai
16.	830487	Haji Habibullah	Pishin
17.	840118	Nawab Sarbuland	Qila Saifullah
18.	970020	Mulla Zai Fertilizer	Panjgoore
19.	820374	Khan Traders	Quetta
20.	900456	New R.S. Fertilizer	Usta Muhammad
21.	830351	Haji Abdul Zahir	Chaman
22.	840118	NFML Marketing Office	Gwadar

99. ***Nawabzada Muhammad Akbar Magsi:** (Notice received on 02-03-2010 at 10:30 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Science and Technology be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the number of employees in PCSIR, MAE and PEST belonging to Balochistan are less than the prescribed quota, if so, the time by which that deficiency will be made up?

Mr. Muhammad Azam Khan Swati: Yes, the number of employees in PCSIR, PNAC and PCST belonging to Balochistan quota are less than the prescribed quota. Recruitment for appointment of people belonging to Balochistan Province is under process and will be finalized within two to three months.

100. ***Nawabzada Muhammad Akbar Magsi:** (Notice received on 02-03-2010 at 10:30:a.m.)

Will the Minister for Livestock and Dairy Development be pleased to state:

(a) *the number of livestock killed due to drought in Balochistan, Punjab and Sindh during the last three years with district-wise break up; and*

(b) *the steps taken by the Government to mitigate the effects of drought on livestock?*

Mr. Humayun Aziz Kurd: (a) **Livestock and Dairy Development Departments Blochistan, Sindh, and Punjab have reported** that no mortality had been reported since last three years due to drought in any area of Balochistan, Sindh and Punjab.

(b) The Provincial Livestock Departments planed vaccination programmes and preparation of dry feed for the animals to mitigate the effects of drought in their respective areas. Moreover, the Provincial Livestock department has necessary arrangements to combat the emergency situations.

103 ***Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 03-03-2010 at 12:20:p.m.)

Will the Minister for Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

- (a) *the production of honey in the country during the year 2008-09; and*
- (b) *the steps taken by the Government for increase of production of honey in the country?*

Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal: (a) The Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) does not compile/release the information on honey production in the country. The Federal Bureau of Statistics, Government of Pakistan publishes the production statistics for various commodities including honey on annual basis but the honey production data for the year 2008-09 has not been provided. However, based on the approximate number of bee-colonies in the country and average per colony yield the honey production for the year 2008-09 in the country is estimated to be 8000 metric tons.

(b) The Honeybee Research institute, NARC/PARC is taking the following measures for increasing the honey production in the country:

- Capacity building of bee farmers by intensive training programme.
- Exploration of potential sources of pollen and nectar in different areas.
- Production of quality queens for healthy and strong colonies.
- Control of pests & Disease of honeybees by using environment friendly techniques.
- Facilitate beekeepers in marketing their honey.
- Honey analysis for enhancing export of quality honey.

104. ***Dr. Abdul Khaliq Pirzada:** (Notice received on 03-03-2010 at 15:00:p.m.)

Will the Minister for Livestock and Dairy Development be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Government for the development of livestock and dairy farms in the country?

Mr. Humayun Aziz Kurd: Following steps are being taken by the Government for the development of livestock and dairy farms in the country:

- i. Allowed import of semen and embryo of high yielding dairy cows (Friesian & Jersey) and animals for cross breeding to increase the genetic production potentials of local non descript animals.
- ii. Allowed, duty free import of dairy and livestock machinery / equipment to encourage establishment of value added industry in livestock sector.
- iii. For import purposes, the animal quarantine fee to the tune of Rs. 100/- animal and test fee Rs. 75/- animal is waived off.
- iv. Promoted breed improvement programs and use of Artificial insemination services through strengthening of provincial Semen Production Units.
- v. Expanded and improved /modernized semen production facilities in public sector.
- vi. There are 36 livestock firms/Research stations are operating in the country (Federal / Provincial). Out of which 20 livestock experiment farms/stations (Federal=01, Punjab=12, Sindh=03, Balochistan=02 and NWFP=02) are under taking cross breeding programs and also preserving indigenous breeds of cattle/buffaloes and local breeds of Goat/Sheep.
- vii. Encouraged, and promoted livestock breeding activities in private and public sector. Currently 8 semen production units in public sector are engaged in breed improvement activities.
- viii. Established Livestock & Dairy Development Board (LDDDB). In order to increase the pace of livestock and dairy sector, LDDDB is implementing following PSDP funded projects:
 - ◆ **Milk Collection Processing and Dairy Production and Development Program** is under implementation at a total cost of Rs.1520.844 million. It is of five years duration project (2006— 2011). The project has established 207 Milk Producer Groups and installed 150 milk cooling tanks.
 - ◆ **Livestock Production and Development for Meat Production** is under implementation at a total cost of Rs. 1520 million. It is of five years duration (2006—11). The project has established 8940 feedlot fattening farms and trained 728 farmers on feedlot fattening operations.
 - ◆ **Improving Reproductive Efficiency in Cattle and Buffalo** is also under implementation by the LDDDB at a cost of Rs. 495.150 million. It is of five years duration project (2007—2012). Under the project 277.000 semen doses & 640 embryos have been produced for cross breeding and 16655 Artificial inseminations have been carried out.

105. ***Prof. Khurshid Ahmed:.** Notice received on 04-03-2010 at 10:00:a.m.)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the steps taken/ being taken by the Government to persuade OIC to take collective measures against the new set of

screening guidelines being applied to all passengers on flights to USA from countries of interest?

Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi: The new screening laws at the airports were enforced by the US Administration after a Nigerian national was charged with trying to blow up a US-bound airliner using a new type of explosives smuggled onboard. We fail to understand why Pakistan was included in the list of countries designated for new screening laws.

Pakistan has forcefully taken up this issue with the US Administration at all levels. It also figured during our talks with the US side on 24-25 March, 2010. We have conveyed to the US side that enforcement of new screening laws on Pakistanis was generating negative feeling about the US in the country. Thus, having an adverse impact on our bilateral relations.

Let me re-emphasize here that the screening of Pakistani nationals at US airports was unacceptable to the government and the people of Pakistan. We are engaged with the US side on this subject and hope for an early resolution of the issue to the satisfaction of all of us.

The OIC has not intimated any collective measures against the new US screening laws. Pakistan does not intend to raise this issue at the OIC platform.

107. ***Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 06-03-2010 at 08:45:a.m.)

Will the Minister for Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the production wheat has increased in the year 2008-09 as compared to last two years; if so, the quantum of increase along-with the reasons therefore?

Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal: Yes, it is a fact that the production of wheat in the year 2008-09 has increased as compared to last two years. Against the wheat crop 2006-07 production of 23.3 million tons the quantum of increase was 0.73 million tons and wheat crop 2007-08 production of 21 million tons quantum of increase was 3.03 million tons. Reasons for increase in wheat production (2008-09) are given as follows:—

- (i) Government announced attractive Guaranteed Minimum Price (GMP) of Rs.950 per 40 kg for wheat crop 2008-09 well before sowing of the crop.
- (ii) Government increased subsidy on fertilizers to the tune of Rs.32 billion and also removed GST on fertilizer and pesticides.
- (iii) Ensured timely availability of inputs like seed, fertilizer, and pesticides/herbicides. The supply of agri. credit to farmers was also enhanced.
- (iv) The farmers were also advised for judicious use of water and micro-management of irrigation water at local level through active coordination of Irrigation and Agriculture Departments.
- (v) Under Grow More Wheat Campaign Provincial Agriculture Extension Departments educated the farmers at the field level. Information was also extended through electronic and print media regarding good agricultural practices in order to bring

more area under wheat and increasing production. The Private sector also proactively participated under grow more wheat campaign.

108. ***Prof, Muhammad Ibrahim Khan:** (Notice received on 06-03-2010 at 10:15:a.m.)

Will the Minister for Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

- (a) *the estimated cost of National Programme for Improvement of Watercourses; and*
- (b) *the amount allocated by the Government for the said scheme in PSDP 2009-10 and the amount released and spent so far?*

Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal: (a) The estimated cost of National Programme for Improvement of Watercourses in Pakistan is Rs.66.373 billion including farmers' share Rs.14.646 billion and provincials' share Rs.1.071 billion.

(b) An amount of Rs.10.00 billion was allocated for the said scheme in PSDP 2009-10. However, only Rs.600.00 million *i.e.* 6% of the allocation have been released by the Finance Division for Employee Related Expenses. Out of which, about Rs.597.86 millions have been spent, so far.

110. ***Dr. Muhammad Ismail Buledi:** (Notice received on 09-03-2010 at 08:25:a.m.)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of persons appointed in BPS 12 to 22 in the Ministry and its missions abroad during the last two years with province-wise break up; and*
- (b) *the number of officers / officials of the Ministry promoted during the said period?*

Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi: (a) A total of 53 officers/officials have been appointed in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs during the last two years. The Province-wise break-up is as under:—

BPS	Province-wise break up						Total
	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	FATA/FANA	AJK	
BS-17	19	6	4	2	3	-	34
BS-15	10	2	1	2	2	2	19
Total	29	8	5	4	5	2	53

(b) The details of officers promoted during the last two years are as under:—

Sl. No.	BPS	Total
1	22	12
2	21	21
3	20	41

4	19	44
5	18	39
6	16	18
7	15	22
8	14	42

113. ***Begum Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 10-03-2010 at 08:45:a.m.)

Will the Minister for Textile Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the textile industry is facing crisis due to shortage of cotton yarn and other raw material; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to ban the export of cotton yarn for uplift of the industry, if so, its details?*

Rana Muhammad Farooq Saeed Khan: (a) Yes, textile industry was facing problems due to shortage of cotton yarn during the first half of the 2009-10.

(b) Yes, Government has already imposed a cap on the exports of cotton yarn and it would be restricted to 35 million kg per month for all types of yarn for 4 months *i.e.* 1st March to 30th June, 2010. However, value added yarn fetching a price more than or equal to \$3.5 per kg would be allowed over and above the quota.

114. ***Haji Mohammad Adeel:** (Notice received on 11-03-2010 at 10:30:a.m.)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state whether there are complaints against discourteous behavior of the staff working in the Pakistani Embassy in Oslo, Norway, if so, the steps being taken to bring an improvement in the situation?

Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi: Pakistan Embassy in Oslo has informed that they do not have any serious complaint in their notice about discourteous behaviour of the staff with the community. However, it may be added, the Embassy even opens its consular office on Saturday and in some cases Sunday to issue visa etc. in order to provide all possible assistance to those Pakistani community members who need emergency visas in case of death of their near and dear ones or other emergencies. If there are specific complaints, the Ministry and the Mission would investigate and provide early redressal.

116. ***Hafiz Rashid Ahmad:** (Notice received on 13-03-2010 at 08:50:a.m.)

Will the Minister for Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

- (a) *the acreage of agricultural land owned by the departments and organizations under the administrative control of the Ministry; and*
- (b) *the details of crops cultivated on the said lands and the per acre production and income received from the same during the last five years with year-wise break up?*

Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal: (a) The detail of the acreage of agricultural land owned by the departments and organizations under the administrative control of the Ministry is given as:—

(i) Pakistan Central Cotton Committee (PCCC) : 127 acres

(ii) Pakistan Oilseeds Development Board (PODB): 660 acres

(iii) Pakistan Agriculture Research Council (PARC): Awaited

(b) Mostly the crops grown on the land owned by the PCCC and PODB are: cotton, wheat, fodder, oilseeds (canola etc;) and olive trees. Information of acreage, per acre yield and annual income for last five years is given as:—

2004-05

	Cotton	Wheat	Fodder	Canola
Acres Production	142	90	46	-
(maunds/acre)	22	32	-	-
Income (Rs)	19,39,082	12,22,000	1,99,050	-

2005-06

Acres Production	141	95	52	276
(maunds/acre)	8	35	-	08
Income (Rs)	32,30,862	14,30,354	4,58,638	24,90,000

2006-07

Acres Production	142	89	47	223
(maunds/acre)	19	38	-	07
Income (Rs)	33,18,731	15,13,332	271,900	22,60,779

2007-08

Acres Production	136	73	63	104
(maunds/acre)	13	30	-	06
Income (Rs)	39,40,708	14,45,825	2,24,125	18,18,600

2008-09

Acres Production	130	64	60	110
(maunds/acre)	18	35	-	06
Income (Rs)	27,92,138	22,41,850	4,45,000	17,84,300

As regard information in respect of PARC is awaited.
117. ***Dr. Abdul Khaliq Pirzada:** (Notice received on 13-03-2010 at 13:20:p.m.)

Will the Minister for Livestock and Dairy Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the feeds being used for the poultry in the country is indirectly affecting general public health, if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check its production?

Mr. Humayun Aziz Kurd: According to the available information, there is no evidence that the feed being used for the poultry in the country is indirectly affecting general public health. No such reports from the Ministry of Health (Public Health Department) have been intimated to the Ministry of Livestock and Dairy Development.

*Islamabad :
The 30th March, 2010.*

RAJA MUHAMMAD AMIN,
Secretary.