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PART III

**Other Notifications, Orders, etc.**

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN  
**CABINET SECRETARIAT**  
(Cabinet Division)

NOTIFICATION

*Islamabad, the 28th July, 2020*

**No. 01/05/2020/Lit-III.**—In exercise of powers conferred under Section 3 of the Pakistan Commissions of Inquiry Act, 2017, the Federal Government is pleased to constitute an Inquiry Commission to probe into the recent shortage of petroleum products in the country and matters related or incidental thereto.

2. The Commission shall comprise of the following:—
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|--|----------|
| (i) Mr. Abu Bakar Khuda Bux,<br>Addl. Director General, FIA. | Chairman |
| (ii) Representative of Attorney-General for Pakistan         | Member   |
| (iii) Representative of Intelligence Bureau (I.B.)           | Member   |

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| (iv)  | Representative of F.I.A.                                    | <i>Member</i> |
| (v)   | Director General, Anti-Corruption, Punjab                   | <i>Member</i> |
| (vi)  | Mr. Rashid Farooq, Former D.G. (Oil),<br>Petroleum Division | <i>Member</i> |
| (vii) | Mr. Asim Murtaza, C.E.O, Petroleum Institute<br>of Pakistan | <i>Member</i> |

3. The Terms of Reference (TORs) of the Commission are:

- (a) Whether in view of the fall in price of petroleum products in the international market in /or about the months of March and April, 2020, those responsible for procurement of petroleum products for the country, did actually avail the benefit to the maximum possible extent? If not, the causes and person /authority responsible for the failure to avail the benefit of lower prices in the international market?
- (b) Whether the quantity of petroleum products procured at lower international price and imported and stored in the country were actually supplied to the public /consumers at the lower price or was it kept in storage or hoarded till the increase of price of petroleum products after 26-06-2020 and supplied thereafter at higher rate resulting in huge profits? If so, what was the quantum of windfall and who were its real beneficiaries?
- (c) Whether any order, notification, decision, action or inaction including ban and subsequent relaxation on imports of petroleum products by any person, Authority or Division was meant to and/or did confer any undue benefit or advantage to any person including O.M.Cs., refinery, dealer etc in this crisis?
- (d) What were the real causes for the shortage of petroleum products in the country in or about the month of June, 2020, and identification of those responsible for this crisis including the private sector as well as the public functionaries, regulatory authority?
- (e) Whether the storage of petroleum products in general and during the shortage period in particular, was less than the required/prescribed limit? If so, what steps were taken against the companies responsible for failure to maintain the stored quantity? If no appropriate actions were taken against the companies responsible, which government authority/official failed in its duty in this respect?

- (f) To examine the role of refineries and determine their responsibility in the shortage/crisis *vis-a-vis* the procurement from local sources, imports, storage and supply in the country.
- (g) To collect and compare data of imports, supply, price and consumption of petroleum products during different periods so as to determine the responsibility of the Petroleum Division, O.G.R.A., O.M.Cs., Refineries, Petroleum Dealers or any other Authority or person relating to shortage of petroleum products in the country and any other illegal practices including violation of the provisions of applicable laws including the Petroleum Act, 1937, OGRA Ordinance, 2002, Rules, Regulations, terms of licenses committed in general and during this period in particular.
- (h) To identify any deficiencies in the prevailing laws, regulations, licenses, procedure, mechanism/ methodology regarding import, price determination/fixation and its timelines, storage and related issues including strategic storage and planning for ensuring smooth supply of petroleum products in the normal course as well as during shortage, crisis or emergency.
- (i) To examine whether there was any market manipulation of petroleum products by any party including the O.M.C.s, petroleum dealers, refineries etc. and identification of those responsible for such practices and measures required to prevent such practices in future.
- (j) To suggest short term as well as long term measures, guidelines, SOPs required to be taken at the Federal as well as Provincial level to ensure that such shortage, hoarding or market manipulation, if any, does not recur in future.
- (k) Any other issue deemed appropriate or relevant to the above TORs.
- (l) The Commission shall conclude its inquiry within Thirty (30) days.

4. In addition to the powers conferred on the Commission under this Act, this Commission shall also be empowered under section 10(b) of the Act *ibid* to constitute special teams consisting of officers from executive authorities and experts in specific fields, for the purposes of assisting the Commission in conducting an inquiry. The special teams shall have such power as may be prescribed under this Act.

MUHAMMAD AKRAM,  
*Joint Secretary.*