

**NJ Surcharge, Govt collects over Rs75bn from power consumers**

ISLAMABAD: The government has collected Rs 75 billion (precisely Rs 74.658 billion) on account of Neelum Jhelum Surcharge from electricity consumers through their electricity bills, revealed the Power Division.

As per statistics submitted to a meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Power, the government has collected Rs 4.043 billion in the ongoing fiscal year till November 2019 from consumers on account of NJ surcharge. The surcharge is being collected through the billing of 10 distribution companies from electricity consumers.

The collection of surcharge was started from January 2008 and Rs 1.922 billion were collected from Jan-June 2008. In the following fiscal year 2008-09, Rs 5.163 billion were collected on account of the same surcharge.

The government collected Rs 5.5 billion Neelum Jhelum Surcharge in fiscal year 2009-10, Rs 5.34 billion in fiscal year 2010-11 and Rs 5.04 billion in fiscal year 2011-12. In the subsequent fiscal year 2012-13, collection of NJ Surcharge was Rs 5.327 billion while in the next fiscal year 2013-14, the NJ surcharge was Rs 5.827 billion.

The meeting was informed that in fiscal year 2014-15, Rs 4.196 billion were collected as NJ Surcharge, and collection stood at Rs 8.172 billion in 2015-16, Rs 7.686 billion in 2016-17, Rs 7.974 billion in fiscal year 2017-18 while NJ Surcharge collection was Rs 8.05 billion in fiscal year 2018-19 and Rs 4.043 billion in the current fiscal year till November 2019.

The committee was informed that Rs 18.529 billion were collected through the billing of Lahore Electric Supply Company (LESCO) so far since the surcharge was imposed in 2008; Rs 8.217 billion was collected through the bills of Gujranwala Electric Power Company (GEPCO); Rs 11.443 billion was collected through the bills of Faisalabad Electric Supply Company (FESCO); Rs 8.591 billion were collected in the bills of Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO); Rs 13.146 billion were collected through bills of Multan Electric Company Limited (MEPCO). while Rs 7.395 billion were collected by Peshawar electric Supply Company (PESCO) bills.

Hyderabad Electric Supply Company (HESCO) collected Rs 3.072 billion NJ surcharge through its billing, Sukkur Electric Supply Company (SEPCO) Rs 1.3 billion in its bills, Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) collected Rs 2.37 billion through bill NJ surcharge and Tribal Electric Supply Company collected Rs 595 million on account of Neelum Jhelum Surcharge.