

Planning Commission Newsletter

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New Development Approach (NDA)

The Planning Commission has initiated a series of seminars to collect feedback and built consensus on the draft presentation "Productivity, Markets and Communities; A New Development Approach (NDA)". In this regard the First National Seminar was held at FC College University, Lahore on 9th August 2010 and was chaired by Deputy Chair-

man, Planning Commission. The seminar highlighted various facets of NDA including; a) productivity led growth with focus on innovation and entrepreneurship, b) reforms for internal markets, c) creative cities and d) youth and community development.

Two regional consultations were also held at Pakistan Institute of Legislative Devel-

opment and Transparency (PILDAT) on 25-08-2010 and Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) on 06-09-2010. The consultations have provided input for the core team of Planning Commission which is currently working on incorporating inputs from all stake holders.

World Bank Mission Meets Member (S&T) and his team to discuss the issues pertaining to IT & Telecom Sector

The World Bank Mission visited Dr. Samar Mubarakmand, Member (S&T) Planning Commission on 24th August, 2010 to discuss the issues pertaining to IT & Telecom Sector. The meeting was also attended by Director General (ICT&JACC), Planning Commission.

The World Bank Mission informed that the Universal Service Fund managed by Pakistan is presented by the Bank as a success story in all its meetings which needs to be followed by other countries. But unfortunately, in the last few months, a no. of issues have cropped up regarding delays in approvals of budgets, contracts, payments etc. due to non-scheduling of board meetings. Matter may be raised by the Planning Commission with Ministry of I.T. and issue may be got resolved. Member (S&T) assured the Mission that he will consult Ministry of IT on this issue.

According to the Mission, Pakistan has a lot of potential to benefit from Human Resource Development in



IT Sector. The World Bank Mission suggested that Pakistan should build more IT Parks, promote IT Industry, implement e-payment gateway and launch a comprehensive Skill Development Program. Member (S&T) informed that a very good program has been initiated by the Punjab Government under the guidelines of Planning Commission to train about 45,000 people every 15 months. Similar programs will also be carried out by other provinces.

World Bank Mission pointed out about the weaknesses in the E-Government Program. Member (S&T) informed the Mission that he has been recommending IT Cadre to Ministry of IT for sustainability of E-Government Program. Mission suggested that each Ministry should carry out Business Process Re-engineering (BPR). DG(ICT&JACC) replied that even in order to implement

Business Process Re-Engineering, you need to have IT professionals working under a central command which leads to the IT Cadre. WB mission agreed with the views of DG (ICT&JACC).

World Bank mission then referred to the views of Planning Commission on the World Bank's project concept note. DG (ICT&JACC) informed that the initial value of project was USD 23 million which included proposals for IT Industry development, MOIT capacity building and strengthening of E-Government Program. The project by and large covers most areas but some important areas like E-Commerce and IT Parks are not included. Mission agreed to revisit their project concept note.

In the end, Dr. Samar Mubarakmand thanked the World Bank Mission for their valuable suggestions and recommendations and assured that Planning Commission will always welcome solid proposals/projects pertaining to ICT sector.

Seminars

Plan Coordination Section, on the direction of the Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, in coordination with the concerned chiefs organized following seminars :

1. Higher Education, Science & Technology for socio-economic development on 3-6-2010, speaker was Prof. Dr. Attaur Rehman.
2. Population on 22-7-2010, speaker was Dr.Zeba Sathar.
3. Health on 9-8-2010, speaker was Dr. Sania Nishtar.
4. Energy on 16-8-2010, speaker was Mr. Usman Aminuddin



The seminars consisted of presentations delivered by experts on their area of proficiency. The aim of the

exercise was to educate employees of Planning Commission, civil servants and members of civil society on the selected topics and to create an atmosphere of discussion and the exchange of ideas.

The process of organizing seminars is expected to continue in the future.

Weekly Calendar of Activities: Plan Coordination Section collects information on the activities of all the sections of Planning Commission for the coming week. Once consolidated, the information is then posted on the website of the Planning Commission.

Sectoral Presentations: Plan coordination on the direction of Deputy Chairman has been arranging the presentations on different sectors of the economy.

Plan coordination section has also handled and disposed off 07 directives of Prime Minister / President Secretariats.

Project Monitoring & Evaluation System (PMES)

The system has been designed to improve the existing flow of information to the Projects Wing (PW) of the Federal Planning and Development Division (FPDD), Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Cells of the Provincial Planning and Development Departments and Board (PPDD/PPDB)

and other stakeholders.

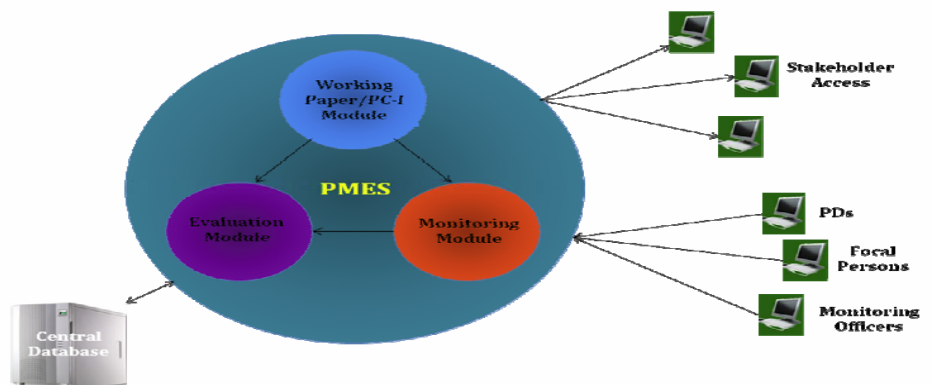
Objectives of PMES

- Develop online data repository of PSDP projects
- Establish e-connectivity with ministries/organizations
- Strengthen M&E capacity

of the Projects Wing and other stakeholders at federal and provincial level

- Accurate and timely information on project implementation and related issues for decision makers.

PMES Architecture



Project Monitoring & Evaluation System (PMES) (Continued)

Impact of on-line connectivity

- Increased accuracy
- Reduced process time
- Informed decision making
- Interactive facility
- Stake holders oriented
- Paperless environment
- Reduced overheads
- Effect on releases

Planning Commission's efforts regarding reforms in Public Sector Enterprises

The Planning Commission is an apex institution, striving for the promotion of public sector organizations to enable them to boost up the socio economic conditions of the people of Pakistan by building the capacity of the organizations by imparting training and special skills to the human resource working

in these public sector organizations. The Planning Commission has prepared Vision-2030, Five Year Plan 2015 and Annual Plan 2010-11 with specific emphasis on the restructuring of the public sector organization by facilitating physical infrastructure alongwith requisite human resource and finan-

cial resources. The Industries and Commerce Section is dealing with the affairs of Ministry of Industries and Production, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources, Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Textile. A number of reforms are being undertaken by concerned Ministries.

Thar Coal

In the Thar region, Government of Pakistan has started two projects namely "Thar Coal Gasification Project" and "Thar Coal Mining Project". In this re-

gard, Thar coal field has been designated as Special Economic Zone. Various incentives, such as tax breaks, have been provided to boost economic activity

in the region. It is expected that coal reserves of Thar will cater to the energy needs of the country for the next 800 years.

Government allocated Rs 43 billion for social sector projects

Government has allocated Rs. 43 Billion in the current fiscal year and launched 528 projects in the social sector. Projects Wing has been recently strengthened to ensure effective implementation of these allocations and guarantee their monitoring. In this regard, a web-based data base Projects Monitoring & Evaluation System PMES has been developed. For the current fiscal year

2010-11 a total of 294 projects have been selected out of the 528 reflected in the PSDP for in-depth monitoring.

Achievements of Social Sector section of Projects Wing during the last fortnight are as follows:

1. Finalization of monitoring plan for the current financial year.
2. Scrutiny of Annual Cash & Work Plan for 2010-11

3. Key Performance Indicators for social sector finalized and circulated
4. Results Based Monitoring initiated
5. Establishment of Faisalabad campus of UET Lahore
6. Establishment of KSK Campus of UET Lahore
7. Development of main campus of UET Lahore
8. Strengthening of UET Lahore

Pakistan Planning & Management Institute (PPMI)

During August, 2010 two training courses were successfully conducted in which 44 participants attended from Planning and Development Division and various Ministries.

The main areas of training are macro-economic, planning and management (Module-1 and 2) and Project Risk Management. The response to PPMI course has been encouraging. One

course was exclusively customized for the Research Associates of Planning & Development Division.

Launch of National Impact Assessment Programme (NIAP)

Government of Pakistan has launched National Impact Assessment Programme (NIAP) with financial support of Embassy of Kingdom of Netherlands (EKN). Environment Section- Planning Commission, Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency, Environment Wing Ministry of Environment and IUCN Pakistan are its implementing partners. Besides, technical support is being provided to the programme by Netherlands Commission on Environmental Assessment (NCEA). The programme aims at contributing to sustainable development in Pakistan through strengthening the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and introducing Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in the national development planning. The programme in-

tends to achieve following outcomes:

- Improved implementation of EIA procedures, through development of tools and guidance material, and piloting;
- SEA introduced and piloted in planning processes and practices;
- Understanding and capacity for EIA and SEA enhanced; and
- Effective programme management systems and mechanism developed and introduced.

The programme is guided by a Programme Advisory Committee (PAC), chaired by the Member (Infrastructure), Planning Commission, Co-chaired by Secretary Ministry of Environment with members from implementing partners and relevant departments.

Partnership Agreement Signed

A meeting for National Impact Assessment Programme was held in the Planning Commission of Pakistan on August 18, 2010. Mr. Ghulam Mohayuddin Marri Member (Infrastructure)/Chairman PAC chaired the meeting with participants from Planning Commission and IUCN-P. Mr. Shah Murad Alyani, Country Representative-IUCN Pakistan and Mr. Ghulam Mohayuddin Marri signed the Partnership Agreement between Planning Commission of Pakistan and IUCN Pakistan for National Impact Assessment Programme.

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Planning Commission

**PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT**

P-Block, Pak Secretariat,
Islamabad.

Governance Section

Governance Section deals with all development activities in the area of institutional reforms in judiciary, FBR, Auditor General's Office, Statistics Division, Police, Law and Order, National School of Public Policy, Disaster Management, Drought, and Local Government institutions. Other core function of Governance Section is to build the capacity of officers/Officials of the Planning & Development Division.

During August 2010, two development schemes (i.e. Institutional Strengthening of Finance Division (ISFD) CONTINUATION OF Public Sector Capacity Building Project (PSCP)-Finance Division's component—Phase-II & National Canine Centre, Ministry of Defense) have been examined and Pre-CDWP of these schemes was hold. The revised project titled "Raising of Balochistan

Constabulary" was discussed in the review Committee meeting. National Internship Programme was also implemented in P&D Division. Seventeen Foreign/Local Training opportunities were circulated. Thirty nominations were processed against which 12 nominations were forwarded to the sponsors and 4 officers attended the foreign training.

Administration Planning & Development Division

During August 2010 one Stenographer, one Tracer, one Daftary and one Qasid have been promoted as Private Secretary (BS-17), Junior Draftsman (BS-II), DMO(BS-04) and Daftary respectively.

Six Lower Division Clerks

(BS-07) and two Staff Car Drivers (BS-04) were appointed.

76 ministerial vacant posts i.e. 06 Stenographers, 04 Assistants, 35 Stenotypists, 02 UDCs, 04 LDCs, 01 Sr. Proof Reader, 03 Staff Car Drivers, 01 Naib Qasids

and 20 Farashes have been advertised in the national press on 22-08-2010.

42 hiring cases for advance payment and 10 new case of hiring were processed during August 2010.