

Planning Commission Newsletter

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New Development Approach (NDA)

In the ongoing seminar series on New Development Approach (NDA), Planning Commission held a consultative workshop on 27th October 2010 at COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Chak Shahzad, and Islamabad. The first session was chaired by Dr. Khalid Ikram and Dr. Khalid Riaz served as a discussant. Dr. Vaqar Ahmed, Deputy Chief (Macroeconomic Section) gave the presentation "Productivity, Markets and Communities- A New Development Approach" (NDA). Dr. Ikram and Dr. Riaz

termed the presentation as deeply engrossing and infor-



mative. They added suggestions for further development in the NDA.

The second session was chaired by Prof. Dr. Attaullah Kaleem. In the second session five presentations were

made. Dr. Haroon Sarwar, Mr. Umair Ahmed, Ms. Sana Shahid, Mr. Yasin Janua and Mr. Hamid Mahmood gave detailed presentations on the respective themes of the NDA. At the end of the second session, there was an interactive session in which Dr. Vaqar answered the questions of the participants. The participants gave useful feedback and appreciated the Planning Commission's initiative to take the planning process and consultations to the academia and build consensus.

Centre for Poverty Reduction & Social Policy Development

Centre for Poverty Reduction & Social Policy Development (CPRSPD) is working on three important issues: i) Inclusive economic growth strategy in Pakistan ii) Youth social policy development and Planning Commission's youth initiative iii) Development of socio-economic indicators for Pakistan. Moreover, work on two research papers i.e. An Analysis of Labour Absorption Capacity: Implication for Youth Employment; and Multidimensional Inequality and Eco-

nomic Impacts has also been initiated.

Along with above mentioned activities draft paper on "Youth Strategy: Issues, Challenges and Opportunities" have also been prepared. This paper is organized into two major sections: I) Pakistani Youth: Issues and Challenges, and II) Framework for Youth Strategy Development: Opportunities and Trajectories. The paper attempts to assess the issues, challenges and opportunities surrounding the

youth population of Pakistan. Building upon the existing knowledge and conventional wisdom about youth, which could be misleading if not supported by evidence based research, it proposes work on action oriented research on youth issues and first steps towards a framework for comprehensive youth strategy development with active youth participation, which may serve as a cornerstone for the 'New Development Approach.'

Projects Wing

Attabad by landsliding Lake was created on January 4, 2010, when the already fissured mountain, located above Attabad slide off. The landslide mass measuring about 1.8 billion cft formed a dam of about 600 feet height and length of 2 kms. A 21 kms portion of Karakorum Highway was also destroyed / submerged. Twelve government agencies are presently involved in dealing with Attabad Landslide Lake.

Lt. General (R) Shahid Niaz, Member (I&M), Planning Commission, is the overall Incharge and Mr. Tahir Shamshad, J.S/D.G (Infra), Planning Commission, is the focal person for coordinating efforts of different agencies for lowering the lake level, commencement of ferry service to restore vehicular traffic, carrying goods and passengers across the lake. FWO is now working on further lowering the spillway

through excavation and removal of about 300 million Cft of rock/earth mass. A 50 ton capacity ferry has been commissioned by Army engineers and FWO for transportation of goods across the lake.



Projects Wing

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Flood Damage Need Assessment (DNA)

The Planning Commission, under the guidance of Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, undertook the strategic role of coordinating and overseeing the Damages and Needs Assessment (DNA) exercise being carried out by the joint World Bank/ADB Team. A Damages and Needs Assessment Committee, headed by Lt. Gen. (R) Shahid Niaz and comprising representatives from provinces/states/regions and

federal government departments/agencies, was constituted. Representatives of UNDP, World Bank and ADB participated as observers. A Floods Damages and Needs Assessment section was also operationalized urgently to handle the day to day matters pertaining to DNA exercise. The committee had three marathon sessions and number of small meetings to assess and also finalize estimates of losses and their

impact. The combined team of World Bank and ADB presented their preliminary estimates in the meeting chaired by the Deputy Chairman Planning Commission on 7th October 2010. During the meeting, the team also presented the policy options for reconstruction. Flood Reconstruction Unit (FRU) has been established within the Planning Commission to prepare post-flood reconstruction plan.

Satellite Monitoring of Development Projects (*President's Vision*)

Satellite Imaging Technology (Remote Sensing) has become a common tool in the monitoring and analysis of different fields in Earth and Environmental sciences. This technology has improved the capability of acquiring information about the Earth and its resources for global, regional and local assessments. Remote sensing and [Geographic Information Systems \(GIS\)](#) have greatly expanded opportunities for data integration and analysis, modeling, and map production. Planning Commission made a presentation to the President on satellite monitoring of development projects. The recommendations made in the presentation have been approved and Planning Commission has started its initiatives for realization of the President's Vision. The Planning Commission has recommended a "*Mix technology Strategy*" for monitoring of development activities and assessment of

impact accruing there from. This strategy is based on integrating satellite imagery, use of enabling technology gadgets (Non Destructive Testing Techniques) and real time digital pictures. In this regard, following achievements have been accomplished by planning commission:

- The GPS coordinates of the pilot projects selected for satellite monitoring have been acquired from the project authorities for acquiring their satellite imagery.
- Three batches of Officers (PC, NHA, and SUPARCO) have received training from NCEG-Peshawar University, NESPAK and UET-Taxila on the use of enabling technology for monitoring of development projects.
- The Directors (MIS-Federal Projects) have been placed in each provincial P&D Departments

(Punjab, Sindh, KP & Balochistan) for monitoring of federal funded projects.

A special cell for Non Destructive Testing (NDT) is being created at the Planning Commission for which PC-I is under process. It will provide assistance in non-destructive analysis of the structures. The NDT cell will:

- Provide balance between quality control and cost effectiveness.
- Help in determining standards of construction, assessing quality of construction material and strength of construction for meaningful monitoring of projects.
- Coordinate with the organizations having NDT facilities. As an interim arrangement, the Projects Wing of Planning Commission will utilize the existing facilities of PAEC, NHA, and UETs, till the special cell is operationalized.



Projects Wing

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Monitoring

- The monitoring plan was rationalized to reflect changed development priorities due to financial crunch. As per direction of Member (I&M) Plan for Group/Team Monitoring has also been prepared in consultation with the sponsoring ministries.
- Issues in the projects “Establishment of National Law University at Islamabad with Two Campuses at Lahore & Karachi” and “Bannu Medical College” were resolved with project authorities and other stakeholders through a series of detailed meetings and field visits.
- In October, 2010, Fifty two development projects were monitored by the Projects Wing.

Evaluation

- “New Broadcasting House, Karachi projects was evaluated. In addition 09 projects of HEC in Bahauddin Zakria University at Multan were also evaluated.
- The Evaluation Report of Agricultural Sector Development Loan (ASDL) has been prepared.
- PC-I for Establishment of Non Destructive Testing (NTD) Cell for Quality Assessment, has been prepared, which aims to Satellite Monitoring of Development Projects.
- A Draft PC-II of Attabad Landslide Lake Dam Studies for Spillway Deepening and Restoration of Karakoram Highway has also been prepared.

Public investment Authorization

During the Month of October, 2010, Ten schemes for the consideration of CDWP were received which pertained to Energy Sector (03), Mass Media (02), Health (01), Higher Education (01), Industries & Commerce (01), Transport & Communication (01) and DERA (01).

Water Resources

- The water resources section performed the following functions:
- Growth and Water Sectoral Strategies Presentation,
 - Regular updating of flood situation data in the country.
 - Working on cost rationalization and technical aspects of four dams namely Darwat, Naulong, Winder and Ghabir Dam Projects in consultation with the Committee constituted by the CDWP in its meeting held on June 29, 2010.
 - Arrange meeting on High Efficiency Irrigation System under the Member (Infrastructure) to discuss the issues in detail,
 - Preparation of briefs on small dams,
 - Working on cash plans and releases for the first quarter of this financial year,
 - Working on PM/President’s Directives,
 - Cost Rationalization of Hingol Dam in consultation with Pakistan Engineering Council.

National Fertilizer Development Centre (NFDC)

The **Monthly Fertilizer Review of Mid October, 2010** has been published, which reveals that the total nutrient off take during September, 2010 was about 354 thousand tonnes which recorded an increase of 1.5 percent over September 2009. Nitrogen offtake decreased by 15.9 per cent whereas phosphate offtake increased by 40.9 per cent. Potash offtake increased by 363.4 per cent.

An outlook for Rabi (October – March) 2010-11 has also been given, reflecting a comfortable situation of fertilizer supply / demand situation during the season.

Education

Education section prepared the draft chapter of National Flood Reconstruction Plan pertaining to damaged educational institutions. Working paper for the CDWP in respect of Promotion of Primary Education for girls Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (WFP assisted) (Phase-III) and Basic Education Improvement Programme (Phase-II) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Norway assisted) have also been prepared.

*We are on the
Web
www.pc.gov.pk*



Planning Commission

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION**

P-Block, Pak. Secretariat,
Islamabad.

Food and Agriculture

Food & Agriculture section performed the following functions:

- Prepared draft for approval; sectoral presentation on Livestock and Fisheries, schedule and Expert Working Group reports under preparation.
- Participated Meeting on Flood Damages, Chaired by Secretary, P&D. As per directives the section and project staff is busy to prepare rehabilitation plan and costing of flood damage.
- Technical scrutiny of the following project have been completed:
 - National Commercial Seed Production.
 - Sustainable development of saline / brackish water aquaculture in Pakistan.
- Strengthening of Mountain Agriculture Research System.
- Revised High Efficiency Irrigation System Project (Revised PC-1)
- The section is updating project profiles of on-going schemes on monthly basis.
- Comparative analysis of Seed Acts of India, China and Pakistan.
- Planning for Horticulture conference and its preparation is in process.
- Progress Evaluation of the projects belonging to Islamabad development Working Party (IDWP) carried out and supply of

required information in this regard continues.

- As per directives of Deputy Chairman, review and amendment of Sectoral Chapters for 10th Five Year Plan keeping in view the New Development Approach is in process.
- Dr. M. Jameel Khan (Advisor Agri.Plan) delivered a lecture at University of Faisalabad.
- Dr. M. Jameel Khan (Advisor Agri.Plan) delivered a lecture at Pakistan Planning Management Institute, Islamabad.
- Brief for ECNEC on Pak-China National Project for CA and Advanced Ventilated Cold storage as well as Punjab Economic opportunities.

Money prices & Fiscal Policy

Inflation has been continuously on the rise since start of financial year. Latest data available up to September, 2010 shows that CPI (Consumer Price Index) has increased by 13.8% during

July-September, 2010 against an increase of 10.7% during similar period last year. Main reasons for increase in inflation are the price hike due to supply shortages especially of food

items, unprecedented floods, government borrowing for budgetary support as well as rise in prices of commodities in International market.

International Trade & Finance

Exports (Gross) during the 1st quarter of 2010-11 has increased to \$5129.23 million compared to \$4437.94 million in the corresponding period of last year showing an increase of 16.7%. However, at the same time imports have increased to 9029.44 million from \$7586.76 million in the previous year registering an increase of 19.02%. Therefore, the trade deficit has surged by 22.3%.

Commodity-wise analysis shows that almost all export groups have shown positive growth which is a positive signal. Commodity-wise analysis of import shows that all groups have indicated positive growth which has increased economic activities in the Country. Exports have indicated 6.7% increase in volume and 7.5% increase in prices while imports have shown 1031.6% increase in quantity and

1062.7% decrease in prices with a net decrease of 31% in value. This means that there is a real resource transfer into our economy. Workers' remittances have increased to \$2646 million from \$2331 million in the corresponding period of last year. Therefore Current account deficit has reduced. Foreign exchange reserves increased to all time high level of \$16.984 billion during 1st Quarter of FY 2011.

Pakistan Planning and Management Institute (PPMI)

During the month of October, 2010 the following training courses were conducted:

- Participatory Project Cycle management

• Sectoral Issues and Policies
Total 61 participants from Miniseries/Division/Department and Organiza-

tions attended these training courses.