

Planning Commission Newsletter

Inside this issue:

Public Investment Programmi ng	2
Money, Prices and Fiscal Policy	2
Industries & Commerce	2
Food & Agricul ture	3
Governance Secti on	3
National Fertilizer Devel opment Centre	3
Paki stan Planni ng and Management Insti tute	3

Framework for Economic Growth

Planning Commission has started a series of workshops and consultations with the focus to create mass awareness, consensus and ownership of economic reforms to develop a practicable implementation plan for the Framework for Economic Growth. During September 2011, workshops were or-



ganized at the University of Karachi (20th September 2011), University of Sindh, Jamshoro (22nd September 2011), Lasbela University of Agriculture, Water and Marine Sciences (24th September 2011) and University of Gujrat (27th September 2011) wherein presentations were made on governance, energy crisis, market reforms, cities, connectivity, and youth & community. During all these workshops, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission summarized the salient features of the Framework for Economic Growth and urged the aca-

demia to provide their input for improvement as well as implementation of reforms under the Growth Framework. During the workshop at the University of Karachi, the chief guest Pir Mazhar Ul Haq, Senior Minister of the Sindh Government emphasized the role of education and importance of educational reforms for achieving economic growth. The presentations were followed by discussions/questions and answers sessions. The participants mainly focused on efficient utilization of urban land, role of embassies and consulates for promotion of exports, import liberalization regimes, political will for implementation of the Framework and revival of local government system. The issues of mismanagement and poor governance



during recent floods in Sindh were also highlighted. The participants emphasized involving local communities in disaster management,

importance of civil service reforms, use of renewable, nuclear and Thar coal energy resources, development of business-friendly environment, use of indigenous natural resources, employment generation through promoting entrepreneurship, harmonizing social and human resources besides physical connectivity, involvement of local community in decision-making by the government, establishing linkage between Planning Commission and Sindh University for research input in policy guidance. The participants also stressed on the need to eradicating corruption, involving both public and private sectors in market reforms, implementing sound industrial policies, and creating link between academia and industry etc. The issues of migration to cities due to urban-rural wage difference, low level of youth skill and their unemployment, and parallel education systems were also pointed out. During the workshop at University of Gujrat, the chief guest Mr. M. Ghalib Nishtar, President of Khushali Bank Limited focused on the role of SMEs and termed them vital for innovations and employment generation.

Projects Wing

Monitoring & Evaluation

Non-Destructive Testing: Projects Wing monitored 59 Development Projects during the September 2011 in addition to evaluation of a project. Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) was carried out in collaboration with PAEC experts on two Projects namely 'Construction of New Secretariat Block, Islamabad' and 'Islamabad-Muzaffarabad

Road (N-75)' to test quality of the structures.

Cash/Work Plans

Cash/Work Plans in respect of 265 projects were approved by the Projects Wing.

Important meetings held during the Month

A meeting under the Chairmanship of Lt. General (R) Shahid Niaz, Member (I&M), was held on 24th September, 2011 to review progress of

New Benazir Bhutto International Airport Islamabad. D.G CAA and representatives of M/o Communications, IESCO, PEPCO and Member P&D Board Govt. of the Punjab attended the meeting.



Public Investment Programming

- A presentation was made to the President on 'Aughaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan' Package to appraise the President about current status of the Programme and its component Projects being financed through Federal PSDP 2011-12.
 - Portfolio review meeting of foreign aided projects was held in EAD with German authorities on the occasion of 50th anniversary of bilateral cooperation.
 - PIP Section participated in the workshop arranged by the World Bank to appraise the Pakistan Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability Assessment of Federal Government Report of June, 2009.
- Supplementary Grant/Re-appropriation:
- 20 cases for supplementary grant/re-appropriation were received and disposed of during the month as per policy and under the relevant rules.
- Post Devolution Cases:
- A number of cases relating to devolved projects were received from various devolved Ministries/ Divisions/ Departments/ Provincial Governments which were dealt with according to instructions and directions in consultation with concerned Federal Ministries/ Divisions and Provincial Governments.
- Release of Funds
- An amount of Rs. 44.70 billion has been released to various projects of different Federal Ministries/Divisions as well as Provinces upto October 3, 2011 from the PSDP allocation of Rs. 254 billion for 2011-12.

Money Prices & Fiscal Policy

- Trends in Prices, Monetary Aggregates, Fiscal Policy and Stock Markets
- Prepared Monthly Monetary Developments for the period 1st July to 6th August, 2011.
- Prepared material on Redistribution of Power not just Wealth for 125th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union meeting to be held in Bern (Switzerland) from 16-19 October, 2011.
- Prepared a matrix of required actions for preparation of implementation plan for Framework for Economic Growth.
- Coordinated the work of Tariff Reform Exercise with relevant Federal Ministries/Divisions and other stakeholders.
- Prepared material for Tariff Reform Exercise on replacement of "Deletion Programme" by "Tariff Based System (TBS)" in auto sector.

Industries & Commerce

1. Conducted a pre-CDWP meeting under the Chairmanship of Member (S&T) in respect of the following two projects:
 - i) "Establishment of Provincial Training Centre" for mine workers and emergency response training with capital cost of Rs 1150 million including Rs 805 million as foreign component. The project is designed to support mining industry of Balochistan by developing strong local technical and vocational human resources through the establishment of fully equipped quality training facility.
 - ii) "Kamalia Industrial Park", Punjab with total capital cost of Rs 199 million envisaging establishment of industrial park on an area of about 30 acres for provision of infrastructure facilities like road, material supply, sewerage, electrification, gas and telecommunication for industrial entrepreneurs and other investors.
2. Attended PIDC meeting on 10-9-2011 regarding following projects
 - i) Revival of Ceramic Tiles crafts of Sindh
 - ii) Fan Industry of Pakistan
3. Attended World Bank meeting from 14-16 August 2011 on "Mining Sector Mission".
4. Attended a meeting of EDB on 22-09-2011 regarding "determination of landed cost factor".

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



Planning Commission

**P-BLOCK, PAK SECRETARIAT,
ISLAMABAD.**

Food & Agriculture

- A Pre-CDWP meeting was held for the project "Establishment of Agri. Demonstration Zones in Sindh"
- Working paper on "Gwadar Lasbella Livelihood Support Programme" was revised/furnished after preparation
- Comments drafted on project "Technical Assistance and Support to Fruit & Vegetable Growers in Swat Valley" (Project of PARC)
- Prepared a report on implementation status of ECC decision on "Increase in the rate of Cotton Cess" as well as the material for Year Book 2010-11
- Arranged a meeting with FAO Mission in connection with preparation of "country programme framework"
- Reply furnished to Ministry of Science and Technology on the issue of "Agriculture Research Institute Muzaffarabad-AJK"
- Reply furnished on "Appointment of Professionals from Private Sector against Management scale".

Governance Section

- Comments/views on Draft Terms of Reference for hiring the services of Consultant on Social Protection after 18th Amendment were prepared and forwarded to Social Safety Net Technical assistant Project.
- Requisite material on Promoting and practicing good governance as a means of advancing pace and security: drawing lessons from recent events in the Middle East and North Africa (Standing Committee on Peace and International Security) was prepared and forwarded to Council Section.
- Nominations of 41 officers were processed for participation in trainings / workshops/conferences. Two meetings of the committee on foreign training were arranged. 19 officers attended the foreign training.

National Fertilizer Development Centre (NFDC)

Monthly Fertilizer Review of Mid September, 2011 has been published. The data shows that total nutrient off take during August, 2011 was about 348 thousand tones compared to 191 thousand tones in August, 2010 indicating 81.8% increase. Nitrogen off take increased by 85.1% and phosphate by

70.7%, however, off take of potash decreased by 17.5% over the same period last year. Urea and DAP off take during August, 2011 was about 556 and 77 thousand tones respectively, increased by 84.5% and 52.9% respectively over August, 2010. The increase in fertilizer off take resulted due to improved

availability during the month owing to prompt import of urea (150 thousand tones) and better supply of natural gas to fertilizer plants. Off take of DAP increased due to tying up of DAP with purchase of urea while normal climatic conditions during this season in Punjab resulted in higher fertilizer off take.

Pakistan Planning and Management Institute (PPMI)

1. Conducted following three training courses at PPMI, which were participated by 97 participants:
 - Project Monitoring and Evaluation Techniques,
 - Growth Strategy of Pakistan.
2. Civil work of PPMI building and hostel building have been completed and hostel building is expected to become operational in December, 2011. The contract of furnishing of both the buildings has been awarded. Similarly, contract for installation of lifts has been awarded. Completion date for the installation of lifts is 14th January, 2012.