

# Planning Commission Newsletter

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## Macroeconomic

Macroeconomic Section organized a consultative Workshop on Launching of Vision 2025 and 11<sup>th</sup> Five years Plan 2013-18 on 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2013 under the chairmanship of Minister for Planning, Development & Reforms. Planning Commission has kick-started the process of preparation of Vision 2025 and 11<sup>th</sup> year plan to unlock the immense development potential of the country by making the most of our strengths, acknowledging our weaknesses and planning for a future very different from today. It will primarily aim at secure, prosperous, harmonious, enlightened, healthy and knowledgeable Pakistan. The workshop was attended by the wide spectrum of

society including academia, civil society, business community, public sector and parliamentarians.

The Minister reiterated that Planning Commission wants to make planning process more participatory and inclusive because we are planning for better future of Pakistan and this should be vision of every Pakistani irrespective of party divide. He also mentioned that now it is a proven fact that government's role in economic activity tends to create problems everywhere including US and Europe. The private sector has to lead economic growth for political stability and social cohesion and the role of government should be confined to regulations and facilitation.

Macroeconomic section also coordinated a lecture delivered by Mr. Zhang Xiao-qiang, Vice Chairman, National Development and Reform Commission of China on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2013. The lecture was attended by a large number of participants from academia, civil society, business community and public sector. Mr. Zhang highlighted the importance of Pak-China development cooperation and reiterated the Chinese commitment to help Pakistan in its development endeavours. Mr. Zhang also narrated China's journey to success and pointed out the avenues where Pakistan could learn from Chinese experience.

## Money Prices & Fiscal Policy

During August 2013, Money, Prices and Fiscal Policy Section mainly performed following activities:-

- Prepared an update on Stock Market Development for the month of June 2013
- Prepared a Situation Analysis on Internal Mobilization through 'Taxes' for Consultative Workshop on 'Launching and Preparation of Pakistan

2025 Vision and the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan' held on August 19, 2013 under the chairmanship of Minister for Planning and Development

- Initiated consultative process with Ministries/Agencies and Provinces for the preparation of 11<sup>th</sup> Five Years Plan and Implementation Matrix (2013-18) on fiscal development, financial sector de-

velopment and price stability

- Compiled Regional Prices information
- Tracked trends in Prices, Monetary Aggregates, Fiscal Policy and Stock Market

## Public Investment Authorization Section

During the reporting period, one meeting each of CDWP and ECNEC were held to minimize the long awaiting development schemes backlog. The priority area remained the energy sector's projects. Detail of meetings is as below:

- A special CDWP meeting was held on 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2013 under the Chairmanship of Minister for Planning, Development & Reforms / Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. The forum considered sixteen (16) projects with a total financial outlay of Rs.103.900 billion. Out of these projects, five (5) schemes pertaining to Energy Sector worth of Rs.2959.272 million were approved and eight (8) schemes of Energy Sector with estimated cost of Rs. 100.94 billion were recommended to the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) for approval being within the competency of the ECNEC.
- The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) meeting was held on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2013 under the Chairmanship of Finance Minister. In this meeting, twenty (20) projects were considered out of which sixteen (16) projects with estimated cost of Rs. 136.2 billion were approved and four (4) were deferred. The approved schemes included 12 projects of Energy Sector, two from Water Resources and one each from IT and Food & Agriculture sectors.

## Industries and Commerce Section

Major activities of Industries and Commerce Section for the Month of August, 2013 are given as under:

- Prepared Working Paper of the project 'Fan Development Institute of Gujrat'
- Arranged a Pre-CDWP Meeting for the project 'Fan Development Institute, Gujrat'
- Prepared Comments on Framework of Economic Cooperation and to enhance Trade, Investment linkages between Government of Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Government of French Republic
- Provided material regarding Final Review of PSDP 2012-13 to Public Investment Programming Section
- Prepared material for Year Book 2012-13
- Prepared Working Paper of the revised Project of Faisalabad Garment City Company
- Prepared Position Paper for the launching workshop of Vision-2025 and 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan 2013-18.

## Pakistan Planning and Management Institute

During the month of August, 2013, one (01) training course titled "Results - Based Management (20 - 23 August, 2013)" was conducted by PPMI. This course was designed to provide participants clear understanding and skills of how to develop Result-Based Management processes and practices within their own projects and organizations. It was also rele-

vant to those trying to improve Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) processes, or supporting partners to develop and implement effective M&E. The main focus was on considering result at the time of Planning, Appraisal and Approval, Monitoring and Evaluation. Fifty One (51) officers of Federal/ Provincial Governments and Public Sector Organizations

participated in this training course. Mr. Muhammad Anwar Hussain Ch, Director General, PPMI thanked the participants for their active participation. Rai Nasir Ali Khan, Chief (Macroeconomic Section), M/o Planning, Development and Reforms, chief guest of the ceremony awarded certificates to the participants.

## National Fertilizer Development Centre

Following are the recent major developments / news with respect to fertilizer sector of Pakistan:

- Urea offtake during July, 2013 was 466 thousand tonnes, which increased by 19.8 per cent over July, 2012 (389 thousand tonnes). DAP offtake was 81 thousand tonnes, which registered a decrease of 19.6 per cent as compared to July, 2012 (101 thousand tonnes).
- Total fertilizer nutrient offtake during July, 2013 was about 291 thousand tonnes compared to 271 thousand tonnes of July, 2012, showing an increase of 7.3 per cent. Among nutrients, phosphate offtake decreased by 21.9 percent while nitrogen and potash offtake increased by 15.1 and 51.3 per cent respectively.
- Participated in the meeting of Senate Standing Committee on National Food Security & Research and provided a comparative analysis of fertilizer prices & subsidy situation of Pakistan with India.
- Assisted Ministry of Industries & Production in assessing the opportunity cost of providing natural gas to fertilizer industry vis-à-vis power sector along with estimating the impact of removing the un-budgeted feed stock gas subsidy on manufacturing of urea.

## Employment & Research

The major activities of the section for the month of August are as under;

- Provided feedback to the Plan Coordination Section on Indicators and Data Sources for the 2014 HDI and Related Indices.
- Furnished comments on the concept paper "Formulation of District Development Index (DDI)" to Poverty Alleviation Section.
- Prepared comments on Report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for further transmission to Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Provided material for Statistical Supplement of Pakistan Economic Survey for the Year 2012-13 for further transmission to Economic Advisor's Wing, Ministry of Finance.
- Preparation of material for Year Book 2012-13 is under process.

## Education Section

During the month, observations / comments have been offered on the following Projects / Programs:

- Establishment of Residential College in Kharan, Balochistan
- ADB Funded Country Partnership Review and Country Operations Business Plan (2014-16)
- Establishment of two Residential Model Colleges (Boys & Girls) at Remount Depot, Mona
- Transfer of Inter-Provincial Education Minister's Conference Secretariat
- Signing of the Second Sindh Education Sector Project (SEP-II) and Punjab Health Sector Reform Project (PHSRP), Commonwealth Secretariat new Strategic Plan 2013/14-2016/17
- Pakistan – Country Portfolio Review
- Portfolio Review of First Half of 2013 and Country Operations Business Plan 2014-16
- First Pakistan-Russian Dialogue 2013
- Provision of Inputs:
  - Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Report 2013
  - Annual Report on the Observance and Implementation of Principles of Policy
  - Purchase of land for Lahore College Women University at Kala Shah Kaku
  - Improving Human Development Indicators in Pakistan with focus on MDGs relating to Education and six Education for All, (EFA) Goals
  - Indicators and data sources for the 2014 Human Development Index (HDI) and related indices.

## Governance Section

Following activities were carried out during the month of August, 2013:

- PC-I of the project titled 'Reform and Innovation in Government for high performance' was prepared.
- Situation analysis of Governance and Administrative reforms initiated in Pakistan since 1947 has been undertaken and forwarded to Macroeconomic Section.
- Support has been provided to the China Cell in making arrangements of the China delegation to Pakistan.
- Proposal of Ministry of Law and Justice on Re-appropriation of Funds from scheme titled Federal Program under Access to Justice (ID-1547) to scheme titled Project for Technical Assistance to AJP (ID-3240) was examined and comments were forwarded to PIP Section.
- Preliminary arrangements for a high level Malaysian delegation led by Minister in Prime Minister Office, Malaysia visiting to Pakistan from 9-11<sup>th</sup> September, 2013 for Big Fast Results Seminar were made.
- Development Strategy Formulation-PML (N) Manifesto Implementation Matrix was shared with ministries/divisions for seeking action plan 2013-18.
- Report of the Open Working Group of the United Nations on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was examined and comments on invitation to Global South-South Development Expo (28 October-1 November 2013), UNEP Nairobi were forwarded to Plan Coordination Section.
- The case for payment of monthly stipends to interns of National Internship Program was processed and conveyed to Accounts and Budget Section.
- Material for preparation and circulation of Year Book in Pursuance of Rule 25 of the Rules of Business 1973 and briefs for Secretaries Committees meeting were prepared and forwarded to Plan Coordination Section.
- Material on institutional and governance reforms for consultative workshop on launching and preparation of Pakistan 2025 Vision and 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan 2013-18 was prepared and forwarded to Macroeconomic Section.

*We are on the  
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**Planning Commission**

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## Food & Agriculture

Following major activities were carried out during the above mentioned month;

- Preparation of Brief for Honorable Minister, M/o of Planning, Development and Reforms, regarding "Public Sector Development Programs (PSDP)"
- Collection of information from provinces regarding Area of Kharif crops 2013-14
- Collection of information and preparation of documents / presentation regarding participation of Member, Food and Agriculture in "Sindh Asia Policy Dialogue on Regional Cooperation for Strengthening National Food Security Strategies" held at New Delhi on August 13-14, 2013
- Preparation of material for Year Book 2012-13
- Correspondence for the requisite information on the prescribed proformas in exercise for final review of PSDP 2012-13 to the Ministry of National Food Security & Research (M/o NFS&R), Ministry of Ports & Shipping, and Interior Division (ICT), were conveyed accordingly.
- Information was requested from Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority, Ministry of Climate Change, and provinces to assess the damages caused to Agriculture Sector including its Infrastructure and Commodity Stocks due to current floods in 2013 and remedial measures taken by Provincial Governments on prescribed proformas.

## Administration

- Dr. Muhammad Afzal, Chief (BS-20) has joined Plan Coordination Section on 12-08-2013. He has also been assigned the task of Project Director (PD) 'Framework of Pak-Norway Institutional Co-operation Program'.
- In pursuance of M/o Interior's National Forensic Science Agency (NFSA) letter No.1/54/2010-NFSA dated 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2013, Mr. Sohail Hanif, an officer of the Economist Group, M/o Planning, Development & Reforms has assumed charge of the post of Assistant Chief (BS-18) on 30-08-2013.
- Mr. Muhammad Awais Abbasi, Assistant Chief (BS-18), Public Investment Programming (PIP) Section, has been allowed to hold additional charge of the vacant post of Assistant Chief (BS-18) in PIP Section of this Ministry in addition to his own duties with effect from 20-08-2013 for a period of 90 days.
- Mr. Najam Us Saqib, Deputy Chief (BS-19) has been transferred from Money, Prices & Fiscal Policy (MP&FP) Section to PIP Section of this Ministry on 21-08-2013.
- Mr. Muhammad Zeeshan Mangi, Assistant Chief (BS-18), has been posted in MP&FP Section of this Ministry on 15-08-2013.
- Mr. Muhammad Usman Raja, Research Officer (BS-17), has been transferred from Poverty Alleviation & MDG's Section and posted in Macroeconomic Section of this Ministry on 15-08-2013.