

Newsletter Planning Commission

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Economic Sections

Macroeconomic Section

In order to keep Minister for Planning, Development and Reform Prof Ahsan Igbal and Secre-PD&R Hassan Nawaz Tarar informed about the daily fluctuating macroeconomic indicators, the Section provides them update on indicators regularly. Moreover, a comprehensive economic outlook on monthly-basis is circulated to different Sections of the Ministry. The monthly outlook describes trends of different macroeconomic variables and drivers of those trends during the given month. Both of these reports were circulated as per routine.

Prof Ahsan Iqbal, in his meeting with the Prime Minister of Pakistan, gave presentation on macroeconomic forecast. For this, this Section worked on estimating the forecast

for various macroeconomic indicators.

Preparation of the 11th Five Year Plan is in progress. Chief Macroeconomic Section is a member of the Plan finalisation committee. The Section has reviewed different chapters of the Plan.

The National Defence University (NDU) required assistance for outlining a few research topics related to the national security, economy, national defence. socio-political environment, strategic management, public policy and governance, international relations and contemporary issues. This Section provided list of research topics to the NDU, and a few were: Future of PSEs in Pakistan, Privatisation or Corporatisation, Demographic Dividend - Is it a Challenge or an Opportunity?, effect of terrorism on Pakistan's economy, and the genesis of energy crisis.

A performance monitoring report of the Energy, Projects and Administration Wings, Technical Sections, Economic Sections and Attached Departments of the PD&R for the year 2013-14 was provided to the MTBF Section of the Finance Division.

Along with the socioeconomic planning, the Macroeconomic Section is also providing secretariat services for the 'Pakistan Vision 2025 -Management and Performance Delivery unit'. In this regard, short-listing for various posts is in the process.

Public Investment Programming Section

- Process of the PSDP 2015-16 formulation initiated
- Issued budget call circular to all ministries/ divisions, executing agencies and provinces
- on the 14th of January this year for inviting project-wise budgetary demand proposals for the PSDP 2015-16
- Held meetings on the Mid-Year Review of the PSDP 2014-15 with

ministries/divisions from January 26 to February 02 to assess physical and financial progress of the budgeted projects

International Trade and Finance Section

Updated data for the analysis of the External Sector performance of the economy! According to data released by the PBS, exports decreased by 4.31 per cent and stood at \$12,073 million during July-December, 2014. In the same period, imports increased by 11.68 per cent and stood at \$24,203 million. The aver-

age exchange rate in December (2014) remained at R s 1 0 0 . 8 2 / \$ a g a i n s t Rs106.97/\$ in December, 2013.

Chapter on Balance of Payments for the 11th Five Year Plan was finalised.

Report was submitted on the comparison between exports of Pakistan and Bangladesh. The Section attended meet-

ings on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Pakistan-Belgium trade relations, and interministerial moot on Pak-France economic and trade relations, and the last one was held at the Economic Affairs Division.

 Issued letters for Pak-Belarus and Pak-Bulgaria trade

Public Investment Authorization Section

Two meetings of the CDWP were held on January 6 and 27 under the Chairmanship of Minister PD&R/Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. Details are as under:

CDWP meeting (January 6): The forum considered 19 projects worth of Rs47 billion. In addition to this, four project proposals for concept clearance to initiate negotiations with foreign donors through the EAD were also considered. Out of the total 19 schemes, 11 projects - with an estimated cost of Rs5.5 billion - were approved. The approved projects were relating to higher education, culture, sports and tourism, transport and Communications,

and the PP&H sectors. Two schemes relating to education and energy sectors were recommended tο ECNEC due to sanctioning cost competency. Five Projects relating to health, energy, T&C and PP&H were deferred due to various reasons. The priority areas remained energy, higher education, and transport and communications sectors. Out of four concept clearance proposals, one was cleared for initiating necessary procedures for suitable foreign donors/financiers through the Economic Affairs Division.

CDWP meeting (January 27): The forum considered 40 projects worth Rs323 billion. Out of the total 40 schemes, 23 projects worth

Rs20 billion were approved. The approved projects were relating to education, energy, mass media, science and technology, governance. higher education, transport and communications, and water resources sectors. 13 schemes, relating to energy, T&C, PP&H and water resources sectors - costing Rs215 Billion - were recommended to the ECNEC. One project, relating to the T&C sector, was withdrawn by the sponsors. Priority was given to water resources, PP&H, energy, and T&C sectors.

The revised composition of the CDWP was also notified on January 23.

Money, Prices and Fiscal Policy Section

This Section prepared a brief on 'Recent Petroleum Crisis' for Prof Ahsan Igbal, an update on 'Capital Market Developments' for December (2014), monthly review on 'Monetary Development and Growth' for December, a report on credit to private sector in Pakistan during 2006-2014, brief on the 'Progress of Tax Reforms Commission', fortanalysis of the niahtly 'Monetary Development and Growth' for January (2015), prepared and circulated review of 'FBR's Tax Collection during July-Dec, 2014', weekly update on performance of the Capital Market Developments, an update on inflation for December (2014) highlighting reasons/ causes for increase and decrease in the prices of major food and non-food items, a report on 'fall in world commodities' prices and its prospective impact on Pakistan's economy' and analysis of 'New Monetary Policy Statement' announced by State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on January 25 (under preparation).

The Chief MP&FP attended 6th meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Commission.

All officers and officials of the Section attended the training course on E-Office Application, held between January 26 and 28 at the JACC, Planning Commission, Islamabad. The Section finalised chapter on 'Fiscal and Monetary Developments' for the 11th Five Year Plan 2013-18 as recommended by the committee concerned.

Plan Coordination Section



The Section organised the 6th meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of PD&R/Planning Commission, which was held under the co-chairmanship of Prof Ahsan Iqbal and Senator Ch Jaffar Iqbal January 23 in the Auditorium of the P-Block. Minutes of the meeting were prepared, and circulated among members of the Advisory Committee and all concerned.

Preparation of the 11th Five Year Plan (2013-18) is in process of consolidation. Several meetings were arranged by this Section under the chairmanship of the Chief Economist Dr Muhammad Nadeem Javaid, and coordination was carried out with all the Chiefs concerned.

Preparation of the Year Book 2013-14 of the Ministry for onward submission to the Cabinet Division is in process. Title of Year Book was finalised after discussion with the Minister



PD&R.

Framework of the Institutional Cooperation Programme (FICP): Extension of the Project was applied, its posts were advertised, and short-listing was carried out, while selection is underway.

Templates for the Weekly Progress Report were prepared by this Section.

The 10th meeting of the Senior Management Committee (SMC) of the Planning Commission was organised by this Section on January 2. Minutes of the meeting were



prepared, and circulated among the concerned, while the follow-up action was also taken.

Newsletter of the Commission is consolidated by this Section. During January, material was collected from all sections/wings of the Ministry for the newsletter of December, consolidated and forwarded to the Editor (Development Communication Project) for editing, and after approval from the competent authority, it was uploaded on the official website.

Poverty Alleviation and MDGs Section

A meeting of the National Coordination Committee on MDGs/SDGs was held in the Planning Commission on January 22. Member (SS&D) Dr Naeemuz Zafar chaired the meeting, which was attended by represen-



tatives of the federal and provincial governments, donors and civil society. A UNDP representative gave presentation on the Post-2015 consultation process: status and way forward'. A representative of Save the Children Pakistan gave short presentation on proposed roundtable on 'National Implementation Dialogue/ Realty Check on SDGs' and shared the proposed agenda. Based on the discussion held in the meeting, it was decided that the Planning Commission should come up with a comprehensive document on implementability of the proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and share with the relevant federal, provincial and regional governments, and experts to share their feedback, comments and input.

Technical Sections

Governance Section

Working paper on project 'Centre for Rural Economy' of the Ministry of PD&R was presented in the pre-CDWP and CDWP meetings, and minutes were prepared.

The PC-I of a project 'Establishment of Anti-Riots force consisting of 2000 officers/men and construction of accommodation of 1000 officers/men of ARF" of the Ministry of Interior was examined, and comments were forwarded to the PIA Section.

The pre-CDWP meetings on projects 'Updation of Rural Area Frame for the Conduct of Censuses/ Surveys' and 'TA 8683-PAK MFF Technical Assistance for Multi-Tranche Financing Facility (MFF) for Punjab Cities Improvement Investment Programme (PC-II)' of the Statistics Division, and Planning & Development Department (Government of Punjab) respectively, were arranged. Working papers and minutes of the Pre-CDWP meetings were prepared.

Modified PC-Is of projects titled 'Security Improvement in Karachi Port and Port Qasim through installation of three fixed and one mobile scanner by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)' and 'Public Sector Enterprise Reforms (PSER) Project' of the FBR and Finance Division respectively, were examined and processed for authorisation.

Follow up meeting on the Pakistan Governance Forum was arranged and coordinated. Report on the

Forum was prepared. Also, implementation plan for the Governance Section was prepared.

Interviews of the 2nd batch of the Young Development Fellows (YDFs) were conducted and working paper on agenda items of the 2nd meeting of the National Steering and Coordination Committee (NSCC) of the project 'Young Development Fellows Programme' were prepared. Selection of 40 YDFs was made. and offer letters were issued. Moreover, extension of the YDFs from the first batch was processed and cases for payment of monthly stipend amount to the Fellows - placed in the Ministry - were finalised and, processed with the AGPR. Also, information for the Senate Standing Committee on the PD&R about the Project 'Young Development Fellow Programme' was prepared, and forwarded to the Admin Wing.

The Section constituted a Performance Evaluation Committee to judge the best-performing officer or official during launching of the Pakistan Vision 2025 and Pakistan Governance Forum and recognition certificates were designed and finalised.

Progress report on implementation of the Cabinet decision for December 2014 was prepared, and forwarded to the Plan Coordination Section.

The Section attended meetings on the Prime Minister's Youth Programme, and prepared a brief, finalisation Committee on Seven Pillars of the Vision 2025 (by Member (Governance, I&R), and the Board of Governors of the National School of Public Policy (NSPP) Lahore, while meeting with the Senior Financial Management Specialist (World Bank) on the post -PIFRA was arranged.

- Information on cost sharing agreement between the UNDP and Ministry of PD&R was prepared, and forwarded to the Finance Division.
- Chapters of the Social Welfare Sector, Information Technology and Knowledge-based Economy were edited for the 11th Five Year Plan.
- Comments/views on recruitment of the secretarial staff were prepared, and submitted to the Additional Secretary.
- Brief on the ECNECapproved mega projects was prepared and forwarded to the PIA Section.
- Case for intimation of extension in the implementation period of the PIFRA-II to project was processed.
- The TORs to hire experts under project 'Reform and Innovation in Government for Higher Performance' were prepared.
- Action plan for the Vision 2025 on governance, guidelines for citizen charter and concept note on the Human Resource and Organisational Development Division were prepared.

Nutrition Section

A working paper on the revision of 'Food Composition Table and Desirable Dietary Patterns for Pakistan' was prepared, and shared with the FAO for further processing.

Following meetings were held with:

- Nutrition Program Manager World Food Program (WFP) to discuss Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement Secretariat in the Planning Commission and establishment of the regional SUN Movement units in all four provincial headquarters.
- WFP representative came to discuss requirements of the PC-II 'Zero Hunger and Fam-

ily Farming Program in Pakistan'.

- Mission of the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) visited the Section to discuss possible collaboration in respect of the Food Fortification Program in Pakistan.
- The United Nations Network of the SUN Movement called to discuss programmes of 2014 and SUN activities, and plan for 2015, including nutrition intervention and solutions.

The Chief of the Nutrition Section arranged a meeting with the Secretary P&D Board (Punjab) on January 24 at Lahore for establishing the Provincial SUN Unit in the Punjab. The meeting was attended by representatives from Islamabad and relevant provincial participants.

A tele-conference call on the SUN member countries was held in the office of the Chief Nutrition Section/Focal Person for the SUN in Pakistan on January 29. Representatives of all stakeholders attended the conference and discussed report 'Independent Comprehensive Evaluation of the Up Nutrition Scaling Movement', which is a case study conducted by the SUN secretariat of eight member countries.

Food and Agriculture Section

- Prepared working paper of project 'Dairy Sector Development Project in Punjab' for the Concept Clearance Committee
- Performed detailed scrutiny of the modified PC-I of project 'Promotion of Olive Cultivation on Commercial Scale in Pakistan', and returned to the quarters concerned for its improvement before submission for issuance of authorisation
- Provided project briefs for the Mid-Year Review of the PSDP 2014-15, and attended the meeting held in this regard
- Drafted comments on project 'Establishment of IT and Library Infra-

- structure for New Disciplines of Food and Energy Engineering and Science at University of Agriculture, Faisalabad'
- Drafted comments on project 'Strengthening and Accreditation (ISO-17025) of Research Laboratories in PARC System'
- Prepared and conveyed side comments to the quarters concerned on project 'Sindh Irrigated Agriculture Productivity Enhancement Project (SIAPEP) – World Bank Assisted'
- Compiled and conveyed data to the Macroeconomic Section for updating 'Macroeconomic Framework 2015-18'
- Collected data and in-

- formation regarding 'Distribution of Improved Seed for Wheat Crop in Pakistan'
- Convened and attended a meeting on 'Fertilizer Subsidies in Pakistan: Which Way Forward' at the P-Block, Pak Secretariat, Islamabad
- Conveyed proposed topics for research regarding 'Linkages for Research Activities related to the Food and Agriculture Sector and Allied Sub-sectors' to the Pakistan Academy for Rural Development, Peshawar
- Followed the process of 'Inclusion of PC-I (Center for Rural Economy) in the Agenda of CDWP'

Health Section

Dr Fazal-e-Hakeem Khattak has joined as Chief (Health) on January 28.

Education Section

This Section prepared and processed working papers of five projects for consideration by the CDWP/ECNEC. Details are given below:

- 'Establishment of Pakistan Human Resource Development Endowment Fund (PHRDEF)' costing Rs10 billion – recommended by the CDWP for approval to the ECNEC
- 'Baluchistan Education Project (BEP)'costing \$34 million (Rs3434.00 million) – The project was approved by the ECNEC.
- 'Debt for Education Swap-II Elementary and Secondary Education Department Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Phase-II)' costing Rs322.578 million. The project was approved.
- 'Improving Human Development Indicators in Pakistan with Focus on MDGs relating to Education and six EFA Goals' costing Rs483.04 million. The project was approved.
- 'Non-Formal Education Promotion Project in Punjab assisted by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)' – worth Rs191.049 million. The project was approved with desired time extension.

Other meetings

A meeting of Steering Committee of the project 'Establishment of F.G College for Home Economics, Management Sciences and Specialised Discipline F-11/1, Islamabad' was attended by the Education Section, held under the chairmanship of Minister for State for the CAD Division to review the progress of the development of the project.

Meetings on the Mid-Term Review of the PSDP and review meetings held under the chairmanship of the Chief Economist to finalise the Plan Chapter were attended.

Work on modification in PC-I of nine Intermediate Colleges in District Kotli of AJ&K along with various meetings was done for its finalisation.

The review of Mid-Term Report of the Islamic Development Bank Group Member Country Partnership was undertaken by the Section. The pace of the projects under implementation was found slow. The EAD and IDB are being advised to expedite the pace of progress.

Results of the proceedings of the Governance Forum related to Education Sector were compiled and being processed as

recommendations for transforming into laws by the government.

New initiatives

On the pro-active initiative of the Minister for PD&R Prof Ahsan Iqbal, work on following two programmes has been started:

- i. Smart Schools: The project, for transforming 234 rural secondary schools (50per cent each of girls and boys) in 134 districts of Pakistan into Smart Schools, was approved by the ECNEC on May 22, 1999. However, the idea was shelved after the military coup of October 12, 1999. The Education Section has started to review the prospects of revival of Model the Smart School Project in collaboration with the provinces/area governments.
- ii. Establishment of Endowment Fund: This is a project whereby scholarships would be provided to talented, but needy students. The PC-1 of the project has been recommended by the CDWP for approval to the ECNEC at a cost of Rs10 billion.

Economic Appraisal Section

Analysed and examined 27 PC-Is, two PC-IIs of different projects and a concept clearance proposal and undertaken cost-benefit (economic, financial, unit cost) analyses accordingly for con-

sideration of the Central Development Working Party (CDWP) and Concept Clearance Committee.

This Section also participated in two CDWP meetings and about 30 pre

and post-CDWP meetings as a member, and presented the required view point.

Water Resource Section

- Consultation and coordination with all executing agencies for the Financial and Physical Review of on-going development programme for Mid Year Review meeting of PSDP
- Processing and clearance of budget demand submitted for the 2nd Qtr releases of the PSDP 2014-15
- Preparation of briefs and presentation on water sector's development programme (Federally-funded Balochistan and Sindh

- located projects) for the Senate Standing Committee
- Disposal of the PM/ President directives, and the Cabinet decisions
- Evaluation of the bidding process and other necessary documents for technical and financial audit of the Kachhi Canal Project
- Attended technical scrutiny and approval meeting of emergent flood schemes, and the Federal Flood Review Committee

- Technical scrutiny and preparation of five working papers for approval from the CDWP
- Preparation of a summary for the ECNEC
- Updation and modification of water sector's chapter for the 11th Five Year Plan (2013-2018)
- Finalisation of declaration on the Ministerial 7th World Water Forum
- Roundtable conference on the 'Findings of Dutch DRR Mission during visit to Pakistan'

Manpower Section

- Submission of brief regarding profile of development schemes relating to the Skill Development Sector for the Senate Standing Committee and National Assembly starred question No. 116, posed by MNA Shaista Pervaiz
- Preparation and sub-
- mission of technical comments regarding Mid-Term review on supporting TEVT-II Reform Programmes Pak-EU Project for approval of the competent authority before issuance
- Preparation and submission of updated chapter related to 'Skill Development' on the
- 11th Five Year Plan to the concerned
- Submission of status report of development projects included in the PSDP 2014-15 to the PIA Section
- Attended Mid-Year review of the PSDP 2014-15 (July-Dec)

Employment, Research and Foreign Aid Section

- Review and updating of chapter on 'Labour, Employment and Skill Development' to be included in the Five Year Economic Plan after a meeting, which was chaired by the Chief Economist and attended by the JCE and Chiefs of various sections.
- Thorough review of a project 'Establishment of Child Health Care Institute Sukkur, Sindh' jointly funded by the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) governments of Korea and Sindh, and

- representation of the Section in pre-CDWP meeting
- Coordination with the Economic Affairs Division and technical sections of the Planning Commission for the matter of concept clearance of following proposals, which have foreign aid component. These are: Balochistan education projectfunded by Global Partnership for Education (World Bank), 243 MW Warsak Dam Rehabilitation Project-Draft Loan Agreement, 3000 M W Kashgar-

Islamabad Transmission Line Project, 14 MW Harivola Zamanabad Hvdro Power Project, 22MW Jagran-IV Hydro Power Project. 48 MW Shounter Hv-Power Project. District Neelum AJ&K, Future Disaster Response Action Plan (FDRAP), and Financial Assistance to KPK Medical Waste For Treatment Equipments for Trauma/Burns Care Neurology Rehabilitation, and Installation of Clean Drinking Water in Filtration Plants under the French Credit.

Science and Technology Section

The Section prepared a brief on Science Technology and Innovation Policy of India 2013 for Member (S&T), a presentation and report on 'State of Higher Education Sector and Human Resource Development in Pakistan' for the 6th meeting of the Advisory Committee, a brief on status of preparation of feasibility report and cost estimates for 'Establishment of COM-SATS University Campus in Tehsil Kaloorkot, District Bakkhar' for the Standing Committee of National Assembly on the PD&R for meeting a held on January 21.

The Section analysed ten PC-Is and prepared working papers of equal number of projects for the CDWP.

A pre-CDWP meeting was held under the chairmanship of Member (S&T) January 5. Six projects 'Strengthening of Academic Facilities at Shah Abdul Latif Univer-Khairpur', sity, 'Enhancement of the Research Facilities at University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (UVAS), Ravi Campus, Pattoki', 'Strengthening of Academic and Research Facilities at Gomal University DI Khan'. Establishment of University of Swat (Phase-I)', 'Strengthening of Agricultural Engineering and Women Development Program at PMAS Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi' and 'Establishment of Engineering Faculty at Gilgit and Skardu Campus of Karakorum International University (KIU) Gilgit'

were discussed. The Section prepared meeting minutes and circulated to the concerned. Another pre-CDWP meeting was held on January 26 with the Member (S&T/IT) in the chair. Four projects 'Essential infrastructure for Lahore College for Women University (LCWU), Lahore, Jhang Campus', 'Establishment of I.T and Library Infrastructure for new Disciplines of Food and Energy Engineering and Science at University of Agriculture, Faisalabad', 'Strengthening and Expansion of University of Gujrat and Allied Campuses' and 'Up-gradation of Academic Facilities at Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam' were discussed. Minutes of the meeting were prepared and issued by this Section.

In its two sittings during January, the CDWP approved 14 projects processed by this Section. Minutes of the Party meetings in respect of these projects were prepared and issued. These projects were: Subsidy to Scholars Abroad under Cultural Exchange Programme (2nd Revised), Establishment of Seerat Chairs in Public Sector Universities (Revised), Strengthening of Academic Facilities at Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur, Strengthening of Agricultural Engineering and Women Development Programme at PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi, Enhancement of the Research Facilities at University of Veterinary and

Animal Sciences (UVAS), Ravi Campus, Pattoki, Establishment of University of Swat (Phase-I), Essential infrastructure for Lahore College for Women University (LCWU), Lahore, Jhang Campus, Establishment of College of Nursing & Strengthening of Community Medicine Department at Peoples Medical University of Medical and Health Sciences for Women, Nawabshah, Strengthening of Academic and Research Facilities at Gomal University D.I Khan, Strengthening and Expansion of University of Gujrat and Allied Campuses, Up-gradation of Academic Facilities at Sindh Agriculture University Tandojam, Upgradation and Modernization of Herbal, Mineral and Food Pilot Plants of PCSIR Labs Complex, Peshawar (Revised) and Balancing, Modernization and Refurbishment (BMR) of PCSIR Labs Complex, Lahore (Revised).

The Section attended various meetings, which included: Mid-year review of the PSDP 2014-15 for the projects of Higher Education, Science & Technology. Defence Division and SU-PARCO held from 28-30 January and chaired by the Minister PD&R, 6th meeting of Advisory Committee, 22nd Selection Committee meeting of Short-Term Faculty Hiring Program – Phase-III, held on 28th January 2015 at Higher Education Commission (HEC) and chaired by Executive Director HEC, Standing

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Science and Technology Section (Continued.....)

Committee of the National Assembly on the Ministry of PD&R held on January 21, modified PC-I of the project 'National Radiation Emergency Coordination Centre' held on January 16, under the chairmanship of the Chairman PNRA, 9th meeting of the Steering Committee for PM's National Programme for Provision of Laptops to Talented Students held on 16th January 2015 at

the HEC, meeting on Progress of the GoP Funded Projects under the PM Program for Reconstruction & Rehabilitation of Afghanistan held on 7th January 2015 under chairmanship of the Secretary PD&R, meeting of committee on the issue of 'Transfer of Education-related Subjects' held on January 7 at the Committee Room, IPC Division, follow-up meeting on the Pakistan Governance Forum 2014 held on January 15 chaired by the Secretary PD&R, consultative meeting on the National Resources Research Agenda 2015-2025 at the PCRWR on January 20 and meeting on grant assistance of \$100 Million by Saudi Arabia -Saudi Fund for Development's Appraisal Mission held on January 27 at the HEC.

Projects / Wings

National Fertilizer Development Centre (NFDC)

Production of all fertilizer products during December (2014) was about 596 thousand tonnes. Out of this urea production was 428 thousand tonnes (71.6 percent share in total production). Other products were: DAP 72 thousand tonnes, CAN 41 thousand tonnes, NP 43 thousand tonnes, SSP 10 thousand tonnes and three thousand tonnes of various grades of NPK. Imported supplies comprised 93 thousand tonnes of DAP, 2.0 thousand tonne of MOP and 259 thousand tonnes of urea.

Total nutrient offtake during the last December was about 491 thousand tonnes, which was 6.5 percent more than December 2013. Among nutrients, nitrogen offtake was 373 thousand tonnes which

increased by 1.3 percent, phosphate offtake was 114 thousand tones which jumped 24.8 percent and potash offtake was 3.4 thousand tones which increased by 213 percent over December, 2013.

Urea offtake during December (2014) was 656 thousand tonnes, which decreased by 2.7 percent, while DAP offtake was 221 thousand tonnes which surged by 28 percent over December 2013.

Major tasks carried out

were: Monthly Fertilizer Review of mid-January (2015) has been published and issued to all the stake holders, updated fertilizer data for the Agriculture Statistics of Pakistan, review of domestic fertilizer prices data for December (2014), incorporation of district-wise fertilizer companies (FFC, DHCL and Engro) statistics for December (2014) in the Pakistan Fertilizer Database, review of the international fertilizer price data December, participated in meeting regarding transfer of DAP subsidy to farming community, held January 19in the Ministry of National Food Security and Research (NFS&R), supplied the latest fertilizer data and information to the Ministry of Industries & Production, Fauji Fertilizer Company (FFC) and Ministry of NFS&R, prepared brief on urea, DAP supply demand and price situation during Rabi 2014-15 for the ministries of NFS&R, and Industry, and prepared tables for the NFDC annual publication 'Fertilizer Review 2013-14'.

Pakistan Planning and Management Institute

Two training courses were conducted by the PPMI. Officers from the federal and provincial governments, and others public sector organisations participated in the courses.

Financial Management Procedures / Policies

in Public Sector (5 – 8 January, 2015)



Main objective of the training was to provide participants with an understanding of the Public Financial Management System and overall economic and fiscal context within which government makes expenditure decisions. The

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Planning Commission

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Pakistan Planning and Management Institute (Continued.....)

objective was also to explore common issues, lessons learnt, effective practices and latest reforms to improve the Public Financial Management System to ensure transparency and accountability in public sector. 54 officers participated in this course.

Project Preparation/PC-I
- PC-V/Monitoring and
Evaluation Techniques/
Development of KPIs (19
- 23 January, 2015)

Objective of this course was to improve the capac-

ity of participants by giving a better understanding of the project process as a whole. To develop an understanding about the basic concepts of project planning and manage-



ment, participants were equipped with project identification skills and how to prepare and design projects. Moreover, the use of project appraisal techniques in project and implementation and managing projects, to develop understanding of the participants regarding purpose and benefits of monitoring and evaluation. Role of the Logical Framework Approach Analysis (LFA) and result-based monitoring and evaluation framework and KPIs in project planning was emphasised. 68 officers attended this course.

Projects Wing

Visits

Member (I&M) Planning Commission Muhammad Shahid Chaudhry held meetings on January 6 and 19 at the NESPAK Head Office Lahore, to review progress of the University of Engineering & Technology (UET) Lahore sub-campus at Narowal. He has also visited sites of different development projects during January, which included: establishment of Statistics Training and Research Institute at Lahore. Development of Imminent Academic and Support Facilities at COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Lahore, Strengthening of Faculties of Lahore College for Women University (LCWU), Lahore, Overhead Bridge at Railway Crossing, Sargodha (Sargodha), and Chashma Nuclear Power Project (C3 & C4) (Mianwali) (China).

Cash/work Plan (2014-15)

The Social Sector of the Projects Wing received 11 cash/work plans, out of which six were approved while five were returned to the sponsoring agencies concerned for corrections

Monitoring

The Projects Wing has monitored ten development projects. (five by social sector, two by infrastructure and three by other sectors).

Management Information System (MIS)

A refresher training session was conducted on



the use of Project Monitoring and Evaluation System (PMES) for the Project Directors and



officers of the Ministry of Communication/NHA at the Regional Centre, National Highway Authority, Multan on January 7 and 8, 2015.

The MIS Section played a major role in compilation of the data and preparation of presentation to be delivered by the Secretary PD&R Hassan Nawaz Tarar to the Prime Minister of Pakistan regarding the progress of the PSDP projects 2014-15, costing over Rs 5 Billion.