

Planning Commission Newsletter

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Macroeconomic

The following functions/activities have been performed during the month of November, 2013 by Macroeconomic section.

- Meeting of the working group of “Private sector led growth” for Pakistan Vision 2025 and 11th Five Year Plan 2013-18 was held on 4th November, 2013 in the Planning Commission which was chaired by the secretary, Planning, Development & Reform. In this meeting, the members who are the specialized persons of their respective fields have participated. The sub working groups were formulated and minutes of the meeting were circulated by the Macroeconomics Section.
- The conference of 10000+ on Pakistan

vision 2025 and 11th Five year plan 2013-18 was held in the Convention centre, Islamabad on 22nd November, 2013 which is a milestone in the history of Pakistan. The concept paper, template and list of breakout session for the said conference were prepared. Macroeconomic Section has worked on two core themes of the Pakistan Vision 2025 which are “private sector led growth” and “self reliance on sustainable and inclusive growth”. The total fifteen (15) sub-working groups under these two major themes were prepared. The minutes of the meetings for the working groups of “Macroeconomic Framework” and “High and sustainable inclu-

sive growth” have been prepared and circulated. The initial report of the Conference of 1000+ on Pakistan Vision 2025 and 11th Five Year Plan 2013-18 has been consolidated.

- The meeting of the sub-working group of ‘Opening space for the private Sector-Issues’ for Pakistan Vision 2025 and 11th Five year Plan 2013-18 was held on 25th November, 2013. All the members of the sub-working group have participated in the meeting and minutes of the meeting were circulated among all the stake holders.

Public Investment Authorization

During the reporting period, one meeting of CDWP was held on 29th November, 2013 under the Chairmanship of Minister for Planning, Development & Reform / Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. The CDWP considered 46 development projects and approved 18 of them costing Rs. 6477.441 million cover-

ing Energy, Water Resources, Education, Governance, Agriculture & Food, Health and PP&H Sectors. Fifteen (15) schemes costing Rs. 162.5 billion were recommended to the ECNEC for approval due to the reason that total cost of the projects exceeded CDWP sanctioning powers. Six (06) projects were deferred, two

projects were withdrawn by the sponsors whereas six position papers/concept clearance proposals were cleared.

Money, Prices & Fiscal Policy

- Prepared monthly update of Monetary Development for the period July-September, 2013
- Carried out a Review of Consolidated Fiscal Development
- Prepared presentation on detail function of MP&FP Section for meeting of Advisory Committee of Planning Commission
- Tracked trend in Prices, Monetary Aggregates, Fiscal Policy and Stock Market
- Assignments related to National Consultation Conference 1000+ Stakeholders on Pakistan Vision 2025 and 11th Five Year Plan

International Trade & Finance Section

International Trade & Finance Section performed the following major activities during the month:

- Updated data for the analysis of External Sector Performance of the economy. According to provisional data released by PBS, exports increased by 5.11% and stood at \$ 8,576 million during July-October 2013. Imports decreased by 1.26% and stood at \$ 14,459 million during July-October, 2013. The exchange rate during October, 2013 remained at Rs. 106.19/\$ against Rs.95.34/\$ during October, 2012.
- Prepared a report on the working group for exports from the thematic area of Value Addition & Competitiveness in productive sectors for the Conference of 1000+ on Vision 2025
- Prepared a presentation on the recommendations of the working group on exports
- Prepared a brief/summary to ECC (Economic Coordination Committee) of the Cabinet for fixation of quantity and consumption time of inputs used in manufacture of ghee to be exported to Afghanistan under DTRE scheme, 565(1)/2006
- A progress/follow up report on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has been prepared and forwarded to Prime Minister's Office
- Prepared a brief on Pakistan-Afghanistan bilateral relations
- Convened focal persons' meeting to review progress on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor on 12th November, 2013
- Collected recommendations from the Working Group on FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) for the Conference of 1000+ on Vision 2025

Plan Coordination Section

All the arrangements regarding invitation, confirmation and overall coordination for the Consultative Conference of 1000+ Stakeholders on Pakistan Vision & 11th Five Year Plan 2013-18 were made by the section. The series of meetings were convened by Chief, Plan Coordination to monitor the progress and take all commit-

tees on board. More than 3000 invitation letters signed by Minister for Planning, Development & Reform were issued by this section. List of invitees and lists of confirmed participants were prepared and provided to the Prime Minister Secretariat, Administration and other Security Officials as and when required.

The Conference was held on 22nd November, 2013 and chaired by the Honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan. Regarding ECC (Economic Coordination Committee) meetings held on 2nd & 21 November, 2013, agendas of the meetings were circulated, briefs collected and minutes of the meeting were circulated to the concerned.

Food & Agriculture Section

Following major activities were carried out during the month of November, 2013;

- Pre-CDWP meeting on “Application of Satellite Remote Sensing and GIS Technology for Crop Forecasting and Estimation” was arranged. Minutes of the Pre-CDWP Meeting on the subject project were finalized and forwarded to quarter concerned.
- The Modified PC-I of the project on “Sustainable Livestock Development for Rural Sindh- JICA Grant in Aid (Estimated cost Rs. 877.50 Million; JICA 80% & Government of Sindh 20%)” was scrutinized and information forwarded to quarter concerned.
- All related activities were performed regarding National Consultation Conference on Pakistan Vision 2025 i.e provision and contact establishment of participants of Thematic Groups on “Agriculture, Food Security, Live-stock, Fisheries and Horticulture”; Prepared information for “1st Meeting on Working Group of Private Sector Led Growth for Pakistan Vision 2025 and 11th Five Year Plan 2013-18”; Prepared data for “1000+ National Consultative Conference on Vision 2025 & 11th Five Year Plan 2013-18” etc.
- Brief & Talking Points were furnished for Chief Guest at “Ground Breaking Ceremony of Pak -Korea Capacity Development Center for Agriculture & Livestock Technology at University Funded by KOICA and Seminar on “Koreas’s New Village Movement” on Celebration of 30 Years of Pakistan-Korea Diplomatic Relations at University.
- Meeting at PASSCO Head Office, Lahore regarding “Constitution of Development Working Party for PASSCO Construction Projects” was attended by Officer of the Section.

Industries and Commerce Section

- Attended meeting of Pre-CDWP on Faisalabad Garments City Company Project
- Prepared Thematic Papers on Industries and Production, Textile, Minerals and Trade and Commerce for the Consultative Conference on Vision 2025 and 11th Five Year Plan 2013-18
- Prepared lists of experts and ensured their participation through e-mail and telephone.
- Assisted various groups constituted for the Seminar.
- Offered comments on Sindh Agriculture Project (World Bank assisted)
- Prepared Working Groups Report pertaining to Vision 2025 and 11th Five Year Plan.
- Prepared presentation for Minister for Planning, Development and Reform.
- Prepared brief for Minister, Planning, Development and Reform on ECC Summary pertaining to Ghee Manufacturers.
- Analysis of Micro-Finance and its impact on Small Scale Enterprises.
- Prepared comments on Draft Plan to improve business Climate in Pakistan.

Governance Section

During the month of November, 2013, following activities were carried out:

- Working Papers for Pre-CDWP meetings on the projects titled “TSU-Pak Italy Debt Swap Agreement” and “Project for Improvement of Financial Reporting and Auditing (PIFRA Phase-II-Revised)” and its minutes were prepared.
- Working Papers for CDWP meetings on the project titled “Capacity Building of Securities Exchange Commission of Pakistan”, “Funding to SECP under South-South Experience Trust Fund of World Bank” and “Strengthening Market Governance through Improved Regulations a Technical Assistance of World Bank” were prepared and presented in the CDWP meeting. Minutes of CDWP in respect of those projects were prepared accordingly.
- Modified PC-I of the project titled “Strengthening Pakistan Urban Disaster Response Capacity” was examined and Working Paper for CDWP meeting was prepared and minutes on its decision were prepared.
- Working Paper on thematic areas of Security, Institutional Reforms and Democratic Governance was prepared. A meeting on Working Group on “Security, Institutional Reforms and Democratic Governance” was organized and minutes were prepared and circulated to its members.
- List of Sub themes and a summary on preparation of Pakistan Vision 2025 and 11th Five Year plan 2013-18 were prepared and forwarded to Macro Economic Section.
- Stakeholders on Sub thematic areas for 1000+ National Consultation Conference on preparation of Vision 2025 and 11th Five Year Plan were identified / confirmed and final list was forwarded to Plan Coordination Section.
- Governance Section was actively involved in making arrangements, conducting group meetings and other activities of the Conference 1000+. Proceedings of Sub-Groups were organized during National Conference and final report on outcomes of the sessions was prepared and forwarded to Macro-economic Section.
- Case for payment of stipends to interns placed in the Ministry was processed to Ministry of Education, Training and Standards in Higher Education, National Internship Programme (NIP).
- Draft Financing Agreement on Khyber Pakhtunkhwa District Governance and Community Development Programme was examined and comments were forwarded to Economic Affairs Division.
- Review Committee Meeting of stakeholders on the project titled “Raising of Balochistan Constabulary” held under the Chairmanship of Additional Finance Secretary (Exp) was attended and Position Paper for CDWP meeting in accordance with the decision of the Committee was prepared.
- Comments regarding Strategic Economic Projects with China, Turkey and Afghanistan was prepared and forwarded to China-Pak Economic Corridor Secretariat Section.
- Proposal on “Partnership between Ministry of Planning, Development & Reform and East-West Center was examined and thereupon recommendations were prepared/submitted to the competent authority.
- The proposals of Ministry of Economic Affairs Division on Non-lending Technical Assistance (NLTA) from the World Bank for “Strengthening newly created wings of the Ministry of Commerce and Textile” and “Punjab Targeted Subsidiary Program-Support by international Partners” were examined and meetings on NLTA Committee were attended.
- Comments regarding Draft of Independent Evaluation Mission for Country Assistance Program for Pakistan funded by Asian De-

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Governance Section

- Development Bank was prepared and forwarded to Foreign Aid Section.
- Reply on Starred National Assembly Question on Innovation Fund was prepared and forwarded to Council Section.
- Presentation on National Annual Parliamentary Hearing of United Nations on agenda of Democratic Governance, Post 2015 development and Role of Parliament was prepared and its meeting held under Chairman was attended. PC-I of the project titled "Reforms and Innovation in Government for High performance" was prepared and submitted for approval of competent authority.

Education Section

Following main activities were carried out during the month of November, 2013: Prepared and submitted working paper of the projects titled Upgrading Primary Girls Schools to Elementary Schools in Rural Area of Sindh (JICA Assisted) (Modified) and Basic Education for the Poor (BEP) Project AJ&K (Modified) for approval of

CDWP and ECNEC. Prepared and submitted Project proposal for development experience exchange partnership (DEEP) offered by Government of the Korea. Offered comments / observations on the project titled "Award of Merit Scholarship to the Students of FGEI (C/G) and Award of Merit Scholarship to the Students

of FGEI (C/G)" Examined and offered views / comments on Pakistan Millennium Development Goals Report 2013, "Additional Funds Rs. 43.17 million to meet shortfall of the project – Provision of Quality Education to the Students from FATA & Balochistan" and on "SAARC in figures – 2013.

National Fertilizer Development Centre (NFDC)

Urea offtake during October, 2013 was 477 thousand tones, which recorded significant increase of 103.8 percent over October, 2012 (234 thousand tones). DAP offtake was 289 thousand tones, which registered an increase of 57.2 percent as

compared to October, 2012 (184 thousand tones). Total fertilizer nutrient offtake during October, 2013 was about 442 thousand tones compared to 269 thousand tones of October, 2012, showing an increase of 63.9 percent. Among all major

nutrients, offtake of nitrogen and phosphate fertilizer has increased by 82.0 and 38.8 percent respectively, while offtake of potash fertilizer has decreased by 2.6 percent.

Pakistan Planning and Management Institute (PPMI)

During the month of November, 2013, PPMI organized one (01) training course on "**Public Policy and Strategy Formulation**" from 26 - 29 November, 2013. Thirty Five (35) officers from Federal/Provincial Government and Public Sector Organizations participated in this training course. Main objective of this course was to enable the

participants to set the processes of policy design and implementation in their institutional and economic contexts and design a policy process, based on policy analysis. To list and discuss some criteria for choosing the possible instruments for policy implementation, choose and put in place means of policy implementation, contribute to imple-

menting a Monitoring and Evaluation system, explain the role of evaluation in the policy process, design processes of performance management for policies. Mr. Shahid Hussain Raja, Former Secretary awarded the certificates to the participants upon successful completion of the course.

Projects Wing

Trainings:-

In the endeavor to bring all the federal ministries online in the loop of Project Monitoring & Evaluation System (PMES), Ministry of Textile Industry was brought online by conducting a two days training session at Islamabad on 12th and 13th November, 2013.

Two refresher training session were conducted for Project Directors / Officers of Ministry of Science & Technology on the use of Project Monitoring & Evaluation System (PMES) at Islamabad and Lahore during the month of November, 2013.

Monitoring

Social and Infrastructure sections of the Projects Wing have monitored 29 development projects during the months of October and November, 2013. However the other Sector has not undertaken the monitoring exercise due to not having approval of the monitoring program.

Cash/Work Plan (2013-14)

Projects Wing has vetted and cleared 150 Cash/work Plans received from different Ministries/Divisions during the months October and November, 2013.

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