

Planning Commission Newsletter

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Macroeconomic

Macroeconomics Section gave a presentation to Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms on 10th July, 2013 on five year plans. The salient features of the Medium Term Development Framework 2005-10

(MTDF) and Framework for Economic Growth was presented by JCE (Macro) to Minister. During the presentation, Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms directed to prepare 11th five year plan 2013-18 on the

basis of seven (07) points' agenda.

In the light of Minister's Directive, this Section has started work on preparation of 11th five year plan 2013-18 and of constituting of working group is in process.

Money Prices & Fiscal Policy

During July 2013, Money, Prices and Fiscal Policy Section performed following main activities:-

- Prepared Monthly Update on Inflation for the period July-June 2012-13
- Carried out an examination of Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industries (LCCI) budget proposals for 2013-14 vis-à-vis budgetary measures taken by the government in Budget 2013-14
- Prepared 'Reference Material on Analysis of

Regional Prices of Critical Consumer Items for the ECC of the Cabinet meeting

- Compiled Regional Prices Information
- Coordinated 'Tariff Rationalization' work with the relevant agencies
- Prepared brief for Secretary, Planning and Development on ECC of Cabinet's Summary on 'Review of Key Economic Indicators'
- Prepared brief for Secretary, Planning and Development on Council of Common Interest

(CCI)'s Summary on 'Inter-Provincial Transfers and Fiscal Discipline'

- Prepared 'Fiscal Outlook' for the 11th Five Year Plan 2013-18
- Finalized two Working Groups for preparation of 11th Five Year Plan (2013-18) i) Fiscal Policy and Resource Mobilization, ii) Monetary Policy and Financial Sector Development, having composition of relevant experts/stakeholders

National Fertilizer Development Centre

Following are the recent major developments / news with respect to Fertilizer Sector of Pakistan:

- Total fertilizer nutrient offtake during June, 2013 was about 389 thousand tonnes compared to 592 thousand tonnes of June, 2012, showing a decrease of

34.2 per cent. Among nutrients, nitrogen offtake decreased by 42.2 percent while phosphate and potash offtake increased by 36.8 and 91.7 per cent respectively

- Urea offtake during June, 2013 was 567 thousand tonnes, which

decreased by 44.9 per cent over June, 2012 (1029 thousand tonnes). DAP offtake was 150 thousand tonnes, which registered an increase of 56.1 per cent as compared to June, 2012 (96 thousand tonnes)

International Trade & Finance

The Section performed the following major activities during the month:-

- Updated information regarding External Sector of the economy. According to data released by Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS), exports increased by 3.77% and stood at US\$24,515 million during July–June, 2013. In the same period imports increased by 0.09% and stood at US\$44,950 million. The average exchange rate in the month of June, 2013 remained at Rs.98.57/US\$ against Rs.94.12/US\$ in June, 2012, showing a depreciation of 4.5 percent
- Prepared research framework matrix to develop an overall long term plan for establishment of Regional Transit Economic Corridors between Pakistan and China
- Circulated report of 23rd Regional Planning Council Meeting and Stakeholders Meeting
- Furnished comments on ECC summary for reduction of timeline for import of sugar
- Done all the preparatory work for signing of MoU between Pakistan and China on 5th July 2013 during Prime Minister's visit to China and moved summary for approval of Prime Minister and Cabinet to sign said MoU
- Brief prepared for the Minister on Pakistan Remittance Initiative (PRI)
- Collection of data for the Pakistan Millennium Development Goals Report 2013

Food & Agriculture

Following major activities were carried out during the month;

- The meeting of Committee on clearance of liabilities of "White Revolution – Doodh Darya Project / Pakistan Dairy Development Company" was arranged on 31st July, 2013 under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, M/o Planning, Development & Reforms
- Side comments on Senate Recommendations on the Finance Bill 2013 were conveyed to council section
- Reply was conveyed to D&AD Section Regarding Meeting of the Functional Committee on Problems of Less Developed Areas
- Sub-Committee's meetings were coordinated at Lahore on clearance of liabilities of "White Revolution – Doodh Darya Project / Pakistan Dairy Development Company" for completion of activity
- Project Concept Paper was prepared and conveyed to Korean counterparts

Pakistan Planning & Management Institute

Pakistan Planning and Management Institute organized a training course on "Project Preparation/PC-I/PC-II/ Appraisal and Approval" from 3-5 July, 2013. The objectives of this short training course were to explain the basic concepts of project planning and management, equip-

ping participants with project identification skills, training participants on how to prepare/design projects for funding and implementation, explaining the use of project appraisal techniques in project preparation and approval, train participants on how to implement and manage projects and

lastly orientation into the world of project risk sensitivity assessment and management. Seventy Seven (77) Officers working in Federal, Provincial Ministries/Departments and Public Sector Entrepreneurs (PSEs) attended the course.

Education

The observations / comments have been offered on the Projects / Programmes:

- 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 for Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Report 2013
- 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 Education for All (EFA) Goals

Employment & Research

- Finalized and submitted the PC-II on Research Studies, Workshops and Feasibility Studies
- Provided list of experts for Working Groups on employment to Macroeconomic Section for preparation of 11th Five Year Plan 2013-18
- Provided latest data to Poverty Alleviation Section for Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Report 2013
- Prepared Development Strategy Formulation-PML(N) Manifesto Implementation Matrix for onward transmission to Macroeconomic Section
- Provided feedback to the Plan Coordination Section on Indicators and Data Sources for the 2014 HDI and Related Indices
- Furnished the implementation status of Annual Report on the Observance and Implementation of Principal of Policy 2012-13

Governance

During the month of July, 2013, PC-I of the project titled Young Development Fellows Programme was prepared and processed. A meeting of Economic Affairs Division on case of Policy formulation for Non-legal Technical Assistance (NLTA) of the World Bank was attended. Commonwealth Secretariat New Strategic Plan 2013/14-2016/17, Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Country Operations Business Plan

(2014-16) and ADB funded Country Partnership Review (Calendar Year 2012, January to June, 2013) were examined; comments were conveyed to Foreign Aid Section. For Development Strategy Formulation of PML(N)'s Manifesto, Implementation Matrix was prepared and working Group on Governance and Sub Working Group on Legal and Regulatory Framework for preparation of 11th Five Year Plan

2013-18 were proposed and conveyed to Macroeconomic Section. Information on Short Term and Long Term Plan / Performance Targets of Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms was prepared. Framework Document for Planning Commission has been prepared.

Nutrition Section

- Pakistan is member of the Scaling-Up Nutrition (SUN) movement launched under UN Secretary General. M/o Planning, Development & Reforms is designated national focal institute. The SUN platform provides an interacting window of opportunity across countries, UN Agencies, Donors and others, to address malnutrition in the country. Nutrition is multi-sectoral issue having role from allied sectors. For this purpose two meetings on "SUN in Pakistan" were held at Committee Room, P-Block, on 29th July, 2013, chaired by Member (F&A and Nutrition).
 - One with relevant sections of P&D for brainstorming and identifying sectoral actions for nutrition, and other with UN Agencies for how to deal and to meet SUN requirements
 - Estimated cost of minimum food Basket report for the month of July, 2013 was compiled, which highlights national, provincial and regional estimates and comparisons, which are:
 - Cost for July 2013 compared with the previous month i.e. June 2013, has increased by 4% at national level, 6% in Punjab, 5% in Federal Area and Baluchistan, 2% in Sindh and 1% in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
 - Cost comparison for July 2013 compared with the same month of last year July 2012, has increased by 11% at national level and Punjab, 14% in Federal Area, 13% in Sindh, 12% in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and 7% in Baluchistan

Water Resource Section

Following Major activities were carried out in the month of July besides numerous other routine works at the Section;

- Mangla Dam Raising Project is a very important project to meet the national energy needs and a number of meetings were carried out with the Ministry of Water & power during the month of July to finalize its rationalized cost and to resolve the issue of the settlement of affectees of Mangla Dam Raising Project
- Working paper for "Gomal Zam Dam Multipurpose project (2nd Revised) PC-I" was prepared and a meeting was held with Ministry of Water & Power and sponsors
 - The one page project profile of all important ongoing water sector projects were updated for the Minister for Planning & Development
 - Preparation of concept notes on Inland navigation and Spatial Planning for the Minister for Planning and Development
 - Conception of Water Summit to discuss the cross-boundary water issues with India and its repercussions, the national stakeholders, the international experts, universities and think tanks are invited for their precious cooperation in this regard
 - Water Resources Section has prepared a River System and Flood routing model showing the accumulation of flood water, its passage through different hydraulic structures and estimated time of travel of flood water between any two consecutive hydraulic structures
 - Latest flood situation reports on daily basis were submitted to the Secretary P&D Division.
 - Working Papers for the CDWP of about seven Water Sector developmental projects of all the four provinces were prepared. Summaries for the ECNEC of four mega projects were prepared and submitted to the cabinet division

Industries and Commerce

The requisite material on the above cited subject is reflected below.

- Prepared working paper of Faisalabad Garment City Company for CDWP
- Prepared working paper for Fan Development Institute, Gujarat for CDWP
- Prepared guidelines for 11th Five Year Plan, and Vision 2025
- Prepared situation analysis for Industrial trade sector
- Prepared one page brief for ADB funded projects
- Views/comments on inclusion of CDM (Clean Development Mechanism) section in PC-I of Projects
- Prepared material for Year Book 2012-13 regarding Industries & Commerce Sector
- Prepared comments on ECC Summary for Cabinet titled "Reduction of time limit for the export of sugar from 90 days to 30 days and cancellation of sugar quota already allocated to sugar mills within 30 days"
- Prepared list of stakeholders and eminent speakers regarding Industries Commerce

Sector

- Prepared brief regarding Industries & Commerce Sector in accordance with PML-N's manifesto

Poverty

Mr. Shahid Naeem Deputy Chief/Project Manager, Poverty Alleviation & MDGs Section/SSNP won officer of the month



award for his work output, quality work, punctuality, honesty, courtesy, and commitment. Other major activities of the section are given below.

- A presentation was made to the Nepalese delegation by the Poverty Alleviation and MDGs Section explaining entire structure of social protection arrangements and policies adopted by Pakistan
- The Paper titled '**Why Children Never Attend School in Pakistan? Evidence from PSLM 2010-11**' jointly authored by Dr. Lubna Shahnaz, Social Protection Policy (SPP) Expert and Mr. Shahid Naeem, Project Manager, Social Safety Net Project (SSNP), was sent to the World Bank for review/comments. The analysis showed poverty to be a significant contributor to school non-enrolment
- A one day workshop with provincial focal persons was held on 1st July 2013 to sensitize the focal persons on Social Protection Policy issues and to prepare them for project implementation. Draft

report of the workshop has been prepared



Projects Wing

Training:

Two days cash/Work Plan training to the Project Directors and other related staff of the PMUs of the Ministry of Education and Training was conducted in July, 2013.

Visit:

Director General (Evaluation) Projects Wing as Member of Committee formed under Ex-member (I&M) Planning Commission to enquire and prepare a report on the scam of **Nandipur Project combined cycle**

Power Project 525 MW.

The committee visited Nandipur site and report accordingly submitted.

Management Information System (MIS)

MIS Section has been assigned the task by Secretary P&D to re-develop the PMES software by its own resources after expiry of the support/maintenance contract from the vendor. After the extensive working on this task to develop a much improved PMES with the latest web technologies,

the major portion of 'new PMES' has been redeveloped which is undergoing through a rigorous software testing phase.



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Planning Commission

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