

# Planning Commission Newsletter

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## Macroeconomic

In the Knowledge Sharing Program (KSP) for the year 2012, Korean Development Institute and Macroeconomics Section of Planning Commission of Pakistan are working on a research study titled "Creating Space for Urban Microenterprises". In the second field study Korean experts (Dr. Choi Jang Ho and Dr. Cho) visited Pakistan from 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct. to 27<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2012. During the stay, Korean experts with Planning Commission officials visited different organizations and markets in Lahore and Sargodha cities to study the business environment and the business support mechanism of Pakistan.

On 24<sup>th</sup> October, the delegation visited Small & Medium Enterprises Development Authority

(SMEDA) Head office. Higher management of SMEDA briefed the delegation regarding the business support activities of SMEDA and highlighted the importance of development partner's role in different SME development initiatives. The SMEDA administration requested Korean technical assistance in Women Business Development and University-Industry linkages.

The delegation visited the Foundry Cluster, Common Facility Center for Foundry Cluster, a microenterprise IT firm (Viritism), Women Business Incubation Center and the Business district of Lahore. Moreover, in order to study the role of local government in development of microenterprises the delegation met

with District officer- Enterprise and Investment, City District Government Lahore.

The Korean experts also visited urban business centers of Sargodha district and noted the diversity of the business environment in different parts of the country. The experts emphasized the need for a comprehensive strategy for the development of microenterprise, which are clubbed with small and medium enterprises and thus ignored in policy formulation arena of Pakistan.

## Money, Prices & Fiscal Policy

An analysis of National Regional Prices of Critical Consumer Items was prepared for the meeting of National Price Monitoring Committee (NPMC) held on 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2012. The material on Analysis of Regional Prices of Critical Consumer Items was also prepared for Cabinet

meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

Chief, money Prices & Fiscal Policy Section, prepared a country report and presented it during the training course on "Fiscal Reforms for Pakistan" held on 4-20 October, 2012 at Seongnam City, South Korea.

The update on inflation covering period July-September, 2012-13 was prepared and circulated to the quarters concerned.

## Poverty

To better understand and analyze the data used for poverty estimation, Deputy Chairman Planning Commission has constituted a Technical Group on Poverty, consisting of experts from P & D Division, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Academia, Research Organizations as well as program implementers. The Technical Group will examine and evaluate the technical aspects of the process of poverty estimation and shall advise the Government to im-

prove the process. Two meetings of the Technical group on Poverty have been held in the Planning and Development Division.

Dr. M. Aman Ullah, Assistant Chief, Poverty Alleviation Section participated in the Seminar on "Chinese Culture and Economy for Officials from Developing Countries", in Nanchang, China from September 17, 2012 to October 16, 2012. It covered topics including current conditions of China and the achieve-

ments China has made since the Reform and Opening-up, Structure and models of Chinese economic development, Traditional Chinese Culture, Customs and Arts and so on. Entrusted by Ministry of Commerce of P. R. China, NanChang University (NCU) held this seminar for officials from developing countries in NanChang city. About 24 officials from 16 Asian, African and European countries attended the annual seminar.

## Governance

During the month of October, 2012, PC-I of the projects titled "Establishment of Federal Unit for Drought Recovery Assistance Programme (DERA/DRAPP-II) and "Project Preparation Facility (PPF) for Revenue Mobilization Project (RMP) (FTO Component)" were examined and working papers were prepared and presented in the CDWP meeting. The proposed Sector Strategy Paper (SSP), Governance Pakistan for Pak-German Development Cooperation was examined and comments were prepared and presented in the respec-

tive workshops. Procedure for approval and financing of Development Projects: Comparative statements of existing and newly proposed rules have been examined and comments/views were prepared and forwarded. The proposal of Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy (PCP) and its Annual Report 2011 has been examined and comments/views were prepared for approval of Secretary, P&D Division. MOU between ICHARM, TSU-KUBA Japan and NDMA M/O Climate Change has been examined and comments/views were prepared and forwarded.

Meetings in respect of project titled "Public Sector Capacity Building Project", "Restructuring of Planning Commission", "Development Projects of Planning Commission" and project titled "Conversion of 'B' Areas into 'A' Areas of Balochistan" were attended.

Nineteen (19) nominations for training/seminar/workshop (Local/Foreign) were processed. One meeting of the Committee on Foreign Training was convened whereas 05 officers attended the foreign training/seminar/workshop during the month.

## Administration

The litigation Section dealt with around ten (10) cases filed in different courts of law in which Planning & Development Division had been made respondent. The views/comments of Planning &

Development Division in these cases were submitted to Law and Justice Division followed by the nomination of officers concerned to attend the hearings. Litigation Section also provided assis-

tance to the concerned Sections in preparation and approval of comments, appointment of a State Counsel and any other legal assistance required by them.

## National Fertilizer Development Centre

The Monthly Fertilizer Review of Mid October, 2012 has been published, which reveals that total nutrient offtake during September, 2012 was about 273 thousand tonnes compared to 363 thousand tonnes of September, 2011, showed a decrease of 24.7 per

cent. Among the nutrients, nitrogen offtake decreased by 42.0 per cent, while phosphate and potash offtake increased by 44.8 and 37.9 per cent respectively. Urea offtake during September, 2012 was 264 thousand tonnes, which decreased by 49.7 per cent, over Sep-

tember, 2011 (524 thousand tonnes). DAP offtake was about 208 thousand tonnes as compared to 124 thousand tonnes of September, 2011, showing an increase of 68.2 per cent over same time frame of previous year.

## Public Investment Authorization

A CDWP meeting was held on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2012 wherein twenty four (24) development projects costing approximately Rs.

24.00 billion were considered. While during the month twenty (20) new schemes were received and circulated to relevant

technical Sections for preparing working papers for consideration of CDWP.

## Physical Planning & Housing (PP&H)

Besides undertaking normal activities of scrutinizing PC-Is, preparing working papers for CDWP & responding to queries regarding several projects, Physical Planning & Housing section carried out monitoring of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Resources' project titled, "Construction of Petro-

leum House at G-5/2, Islamabad." Monitoring team includes Ms. Saima Afzal Monitoring Officer, Mr. Qaisar Humayun Research Associate (PP&H Section), Mr. Saqib Tanveer Computer Operator (PP&H Section) and headed by Mr. Arshad Maqsood Malik, Director General (infrastructure).

Monitoring of the project included detailed assessment of execution of project, conformity of scope of work according to PC-I and overall performance of the project. The project costing Rs. 857.370 million started in 2007 and is expected to be completed by the end of current calendar year.

## Food & Agriculture

During the month, three DDWP level projects; (i) Recruitment of Staff for Operationalization/Commissioning of the Central Plant Quarantine Laboratory, Department of Plant Protection, Karachi ; (ii) Recruitment of Staff for Establishment of Post Entry Quarantine Station at Port Qasim Karachi and (iii) Recruitment of Staff for Commissioning of Vapor Heat Treatment (VHT) Pilot Plant at Department of Plant Protection Karachi of the Ministry of National Food Security and Research were scrutinized and

comments were presented in the DDWP meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2012.

To resolve post devolution issues of PSDP funded "The White Revolution-Doodh Darya" Project under Pakistan Dairy Development Company (PDDC), a meeting was arranged on 22.10.2012 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Planning & Development Division. Brief for the meeting was prepared and after meeting, minutes of meeting were drafted accordingly.

For undertaking the midterm progress of the

project "Special Programme for Strengthening SPS Facilities and Quality Inspection Services in Compliance with WTO-Establishment of an Integrated National Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (NAPHIS)" different relevant documents were collected from concerned quarters and brief information was updated accordingly.

For improvement in the Questionnaire, developed for Agriculture Machinery Census 2013, suggestions were furnished to Agriculture Census Com-

## Food & Agriculture

missioner and working paper for the concept clearance committee regarding proposal/project "Application of Satellite

Remote Sensing and GIS Technology for Crop Forecasting & Estimation" by SUPARCO, was drafted. Special Develop-

ment Package, AJ&K was also received and comments/suggestions were proposed accordingly.

(cont...)

## Education

One position paper was processed and presented by Senior Chief (Education) in the CDWP meeting held on 05-10-2012 on the Project titled "Award of 400 Scholarships to Students from Indian Occupied Kashmir (IOK) (PM's Directive)". Three PC-Is on the projects titled: (i) Establishment and Operation of Basic Education Community Schools in the Country, (ii) Improving Human Development Indicators in Pakistan and (iii) Education For All – Enrolment of Additional 4 Million Chil-

dren in Schools, were analyzed and observations submitted for approval.

Assistant Chief (Education) attended a DDWP Meeting of Ministry of Inter-Provincial Co-ordination to consider the two projects titled: (i) Repair, Renovation of Existing Swimming Pool and Allied Facilities at Pakistan Sports Complex, Islamabad, (ii) Development of Campsite at National Training Centre of Pakistan Girls Guides Association, Islamabad.

Mr. Mumtaz Ali Sheikh,

Deputy Chief (Education) proceeded to attend "Seminar on Circular Economy and Sustainable Development for Developing Countries in Beijing, China" from October 11-30, 2012.

On the invitation of Finance Division, Strengthening PRS Monitoring Project, Senior Chief Education) attended the Stakeholders Consultation Workshop on Poverty, Social Impact Analysis (PSIA) – Education held in Lahore on 13-10-2012.

## Pakistan Planning & Management Institute

Pakistan Planning & Management Institute organized a training course on "Project Preparation /PC -I/ PC-II/ Appraisal and Approval" on 15 - 17 October, 2012, Forty three (43) officers working with various Federal/Provincial Ministries, Departments/and Public Sector Organizations participated in the course. The main objective of this training course was to give awareness of pro-

ject management, preparation of the PC-I/PC-II project documents, appraisal and approval. Mr. Sajid Ali, Director (Studies), PPMI inaugurated the training programme on 15th October, 2012. Topic for the first session was "An Overview of the Project Management", which was taken by Dr. Muhammad Afzal, Director General, Jawaid Azfar Computer Centre (JACC), P&D Division. He introduced the concept of the project management and gave comprehensive overview of Project Management and Project Planning Instruments, approval process and different approving forums.

Presentation on Result Based Management was made by Dr. Atiq ur Reh-

man, consultant, PIFRA. The session started with brief explanation of the concept of Monitoring and Evaluation, and then speaker proceeded the session by explaining nature and types of indicators



which tell us how much the project is working, his concept was very well communicated by elaborating some of the practical examples such as roads in rural areas of Pakistan.



## Pakistan Planning & Management Institute (cont...)

Mr. Muhammad Salim Khan Khattak, Deputy Chief (PIA), Planning and Development Division, gave comprehensive view of the Project Document / PC-II. He also made presentation on Project Appraisal and Evaluation. He described about the different appraisal techniques being used to select good projects for implementation.

Last lecture was on the topic of Monitoring and Evaluation of projects. It was delivered by Dr. Fazli Hakim Khattak, Director General, Projects Wing,

P&D Division. The session started with conceptual definition of Monitoring and evaluation. He further elaborated Monitoring



Methodology, internal and external evaluation, types of evaluation and evaluation strategies.

Training program was concluded on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2012. The certificates awarding ceremony was presided by Mr. Ishfaquallah Khan, Director General Pakistan Planning and Management Institute (PPMI). He awarded certificates to the participants.



## Information & Communication Technologies

### In-house computer training

On successful completion of first phase of short term computer training for officers and staff of Planning & Development the management of JACC is making preparations for the second phase comprising specialised training in SPSS, E-views and hands-on/practical training for officers and staffs.

### Construction work of JACC building

Construction work of JACC building undertaken by the CDA is at final stage. Scheduled completion



dated was 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2012, however, due to security issues the completion has been delayed and CDA has assured that building would be handed



over by them by the end of November, 2012.

### Appraisal and monitoring of IT, Telecom and SUPARCO Projects

Participation in presentation given by M/o Information Technology on IT Policy and E-Government Program to the National Accountability Bureau (NAB). Also participated in Departmental Working Party (DWP) meeting of National Telecommunication Corporation (NTC) in which 12 projects of telecom sector were discussed. A desk monitoring meeting was held at JACC with M/o Information Technology and Electronic Government Directorate (EGD) regarding IT projects of EGD and Pakistan Computer Board.

### Regularization of 24 project posts

The case for regularization of 24 posts of project Upgradation of JACC is with Management Services Wing, Establishment Division for workload assessment. During the month, some queries were raised by them which have been properly replied and hopefully the case may be disposed off in the coming month.

### Coding Scheme of PSDP Projects

In light of the feedback/discussion during presentation to the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission some additional parameters on the Coding Scheme, in the Application software have incorporated for searching to make it more useful. Screen (user interface) design is being developed for tracking of PC-I's.

## Information & Communication Technologies (Cont...)

### Website of Planning Commission

Various activities are performed to maintain and update the website of Planning Commission. Major activities are performed during October, 2012 are as under:

- Updating of picture galleries covering major events held during the month.
- Uploading of foreign training announcements on website.
- Updated the status of PSDP releases on website.
- Updating "New and Update" section of the website.
- Development of new

website of "Economists Group" has been completed and it will be uploaded on the website after approval of high-ups.

### IT Services

During October, 2012 a number of meetings were held at "P" Block in which JACC provided IT support services of conference system, recording of meeting proceedings and taking pictures. Presentations were prepared for Prime Minister and for NIPA participants. Printing and binding of documents for higher management was done. A farewell was arranged for outgoing senior officers of Planning Commission on

23rd October, 2012. The event was covered by IT support staff of JACC and event pictures were uploaded on the website.

Computer Hardware/Software support services at "P" Block and PPMI Building continued in October, 2012 as a regular activity of JACC. At an average 15 complaints daily were attended by the support staff. In addition a Wi-Fi wireless dual band gigabit router (N750) was installed for internet users on 6<sup>th</sup> Floor. The network switch of 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor developed fault which was repaired. A server was installed and configured for deployment of Coding Scheme software.

### Nutrition

A regional orientation workshop on Improving the Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition and Nutrition Surveillance was organized on 18-22 October, 2012 in collaboration with WHO. The workshop was attended by participants from WHO-Eastern Mediterranean region countries. About thirty five (35) participants

from ten (10) countries attended the Workshop. The Secretary, Planning & Development Division was Chief Guest in opening & closing sessions.

The report of estimated cost of minimum food basket for the month of September, 2012 was completed in the month of October, 2012. The report highlights national,

provincial and regional estimates and comparisons.

The report on cost of food basket for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, 2012-13 (July-September, 2012) has been completed which includes changes in food basket and comparison with same period of last year i.e. 2011-12.

### Energy Wing

Working papers for following projects for the forthcoming CDWP meeting were prepared:

- Sharmi Hydropower Project (HPP), 150 MW.
- Dowarian HPP, 40 MW.
- Construction of Koto HPP, 13.17 MW

- Nagdar HPP, 35 MW
- Nalter-V HPP, 14 MW.
- Establishment of National Dosimetry and protection level calibration Laboratory (Revised PC-I).

The summary was prepared for ECNEC for the following projects:

- Neelum Jhelum Hydroelectric Project (Revised PC-I).
- Acquisition of land, development of some basic Facilities and detailed studies of Nuclear Power Plant Project site, Muz-zafargarh (Phase-I).

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



**Planning Commission**

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

## Projects Wing

### Review of Development Projects

A meeting chaired by Minister Syed Khurshid Ahmed Shah was held on 08.10.2012 in the Planning Commission to speed up the implementation of the development projects in Karachi. The meeting was attended by Senator Syeda Sughra Imam, MQM Parliamentarians, Member (I&M) and other officials of Planning Commission.



In the month of October 2012, Member (I&M) Planning Commission held meetings to review following development projects being financed from the PSDP:-

- a. **26 MW Shagarthang Hydro Power Project**, Skardu, Gilgit Baltistan.
- b. **Conversion of B areas in to A areas** in Balochistan.

Member (I&M) Planning Commission, chaired a follow up meeting on 18-10-2012 to ascertain the implementation of projects within the approved gestation time and scope being implemented by the



Sarghoda Medical College.

A meeting was held by DG (SS) with the Vice Chancellor, Arid agriculture University Rawalpindi wherein various issues / problems confronting the implementation of development projects were discussed.

As a follow-up DG (SS) also visited the site of the project at Koont Gujar Khan and held meetings with the farmers and other beneficiaries.

### Training by MIS Section

Director (MIS - Balochistan) delivered a presentation on PMES to the Secretary, Science & IT Department Government of Balochistan. Different options were discussed at length for assessing the feasibility of instant access to PMES facility at the Planning Commission to have the latest physical & financial progress of the federally funded development projects being executed in Balochistan.

The Director (MIS) gave a comprehensive online demonstration of PMES that was appreciated by all participants, he also informed that the same system has already been adopted and is being used by the Sindh Government.

The Secretary directed the concerned quarters to approach Planning Commission for the replication of PMES along with the source code so that the same may be customized as per need and requirement of Government of Balochistan.

Refresher training on use of PMES was imparted to Project Directors of Ministry of Kashmir Affairs & Gilgit Baltistan in Muzaffarabad on 18th and 19th October, 2012 in order to enable them to regularly update their relevant Projects' Data.

### Monitoring

Projects Wing has monitored 20 development projects during the month of October, 2012.

### Cash / Work Plan (2012-13)

Projects Wing has vetted and cleared 29 Cash/ work Plans received from different Ministries/ Divisions during the month of October, 2012