

# Planning Commission Newsletter

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## Framework for Economic Growth

Planning Commission organized a consultative Provincial workshop on "Framework for Economic Growth (FEG)" to discuss the implementation plan for FEG at Beacon House National University (BNU), Lahore on 19<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2011.

The workshop was presided over by Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Vice Chancellor BNU and attended by prominent economists,



policy makers representatives of business community, academia, civil society and media. Dr. Aysha G. Pasha welcomed the guests and Dr. Nadeem ul Haq, Deputy Chairman,

Planning Commission gave a detailed presentation on FEG and proposed implementation plan. Mr. Shahid Sattar, Member-Energy, Planning Commission elaborated reasons for power sector crisis and proposed remedial measures.

Presentations were followed by a panel discussion on FEG. Panel of Economists comprised of Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Ex-Finance Minister & VC BNU; Dr. Hafeez Pasha, Ex-Finance Minister & Dean BNU; Dr. Akmal Hussain, Professor, Dept. of Economics, FCC University, Lahore; Dr. Ali Cheema, Professor, Dept. of Economics, LUMS; Dr. Navaid Hamid, Professor, Dept. of Economics, LSE, Lahore and Prof. Asif Saeed, Professor, Dept. of Economics, GCU, La-

hore.

The panel applauded the efforts of Planning Commission for the consultative process on FEG and



reiterated the need for reforms proposed in FEG. The panel endorsed the proposed reforms and called for speedy implementation for sustainable growth and development because empirical analysis suggests that the difference between developed and developing economies is "sustained growth", not only "growth".

## Food & Agriculture

1. Prepared preliminary impact assessment report of the activities of Pakistan Dairy Development Company (PDDC). The report is based on the observations of field survey. In the Impact Assessment Study, selected districts/regions of three provinces i.e., Punjab (Kasur, Gujranwala, Sargodha, Faisalabad, Jhang, Bahawalnagar, Sahiwal, and Khanewal),

Sindh (Karachi and Thatta), and KPK (Haripur, Abbotabad, Mardan, and Mansehra) were visited. Technical Advisory Services regarding Model Dairy Farms; Biogas Plants; and Milk Cooling Tanks were an important initiative of PDDC and the study focused on these aspects. A representative sample size of model dairy farms, biogas

plants, and milk cooling tanks in each province was determined by applying appropriate statistical technique. Subsequently, an examination of list of cooling tanks revealed that they were generally in clusters and had similar mode of operation. The survey teams intensively worked in the field i.e., and covered field visit ranged from 73-100% of the sample size

## Food & Agriculture (continued)

determined for Model Dairy Farms, Biogas Plants and Milk Cooling Tanks. The report applauds remarkable outreach and awareness of farmers about breed improvement, artificial insemination and health management etc. The report suggests improving the coordination between PDDC technical staff and Provincial Veterinary Health/Extension Service Providers. The farmers informed about better yield at their farms and showed concern over curtailing activities of PDDC in last few months. During the field visits, it was observed that the demand of biogas plants has increased and farmers are installing

biogas plants with their own resources.

2. Assessment of activities of Oil Palm Development project - Sindh & Balochistan, at Karchi and Thatta. The overall progress including liabilities after devolution to provinces and installation of Palm Oil Mill was reviewed so as to prepare to transfer the project to provincial governments for completing the remaining work and to operationalize it for promotion of Oil Palm cultivation in potential areas.

3. Finalized summaries for ECNEC on IDB assisted project titled "Grain Storage Construction of Steel Silos of 0.65 MT Capacity" and "Gawader Lasbella Livelihood Support Project".

4. Prepared working papers for CDWP on Projects titled "Rehabilitation & Reconstruction in Sindh" and "Pilot Project for Introduction of Solar Irrigation Pumping System in Balochistan"

5. Prepared replies to National Assembly Questions (i) moved by Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb, MNA pertaining to provision of funds for development of Agriculture Sector in Balochistan during 2009-10 under Public Sector Development Programme and (ii) moved by Dr. Abdul Wahid Soomro regarding district-wise total amount of funds provided for the development of Agriculture sector in Sindh.

## International Trade and Finance

1. Updated data on External Sector of the economy. According to provisional data released by FBS, exports stood at \$ 9.4 billion during July-November 2011, showing an increase of 7.6%. The imports registered a growth of 20.2% and stood at \$ 18.4 billion during July-November 2011.

Commodity-wise analysis shows that all export groups have shown positive growth, except textile group.

2. Prepared brief for Deputy Chairman Planning Commission on South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA).

3. Attended 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of ECO Ministers and 2<sup>nd</sup>

meeting of Heads of Interpol of ECO member states in Pakistan.

4. Attended Seminar on "Regional Trade and Economic Connectivity" organized by Ministry of Commerce.

5. Prepared comments on MOU between Bank of Kenya and State Bank of Pakistan.

## Money, Prices and Fiscal Policy

1. Prepared Monthly update on inflation for July-November 2011.

2. Prepared reference material for the ECC pertaining to Analysis of Regional Prices of Critical Consumer

Items.

3. Tracked trends in Prices, Monetary Aggregates, Fiscal Policy and Stock Market.

4. Compiled information on Key Economic Indicators relating to

MP&FP Section.

5. Prepared material for National Price Monitoring Committee (NPMC).

6. Prepared Monetary Developments during 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011 to 25<sup>th</sup>

## Money, Prices and Fiscal Policy (continued)

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| <p>November 2011.</p> <p>7. Carried out analysis of consolidated budget 2011-12.</p> | <p>8. Prepared update on stock market development for the month of November, 2011.</p> <p>9. Coordinated the work</p> | <p>of Tariff Reform Exercise with relevant Ministries/Divisions and other stakeholders.</p> |
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## National Fertilizer Development Center

The Monthly Fertilizer Review Report of December, 2011 has been published. The Report reveals that total nutrient offtake during November 2011 was about 345 thousand tones, showing a decrease 39.4% over November 2010. Nitrogen offtake was 259 thousand tones (44.3% less) and phosphate offtake was 85 thousand tones (16.6 % less) while Potash offtake also decreased by 46.8% compared to November 2010. Product-wise, urea offtake was 455 thousand tones (48.3% less), while DAP offtake was 159 thousand tones (11.6% less) over November 2010. Decrease in offtake is due to high prices of fertilizers compared with November 2010. Levying of GST and gas curtailment to fertilizer plants were the main factors contributing to fertilizer price hike.

## Mass Media & CSTY

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| <p>1. Dr. Abdul Waheed Rana assumed charge of the post of Chief (BPS-20) Mass Media and CSTY Section.</p> <p>2. Mr. Waheed Zaman,</p> | <p>Assistant Chief completed 12<sup>th</sup> Mid Career Management Course (MCMC) held from 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011 to 10<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at National Institute</p> | <p>of Management (NIM), Peshawar.</p> <p>3. Monitored progress of Multan TV Station and submitted progress report.</p> |
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## Employment & Research

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| <p>1. Prepared comments on emerging issues for 50<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD).</p> <p>2. Reviewed profile of specialist for President's</p> | <p>Programme for the Care of High Qualified Overseas Pakistanis (PPQP).</p> <p>3. Dr. Javed Humayun, Chief Employment and Research Section attended First Meeting of</p> | <p>Senior Experts from the ECO Member States on Manpower Development (Public Sector) in Tehran, Iran from 21-22 November, 2011.</p> |
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## Manpower

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| <p>1. Offered comments on PC-I for Establishment of Technical Training Centre for Precision Mechanics &amp; Instrument Technology at Jaffarabad, Balochistan.</p> <p>2. Offered comments on Project Completion/</p> | <p>Evaluation Reports on PC -IV/PC-V Performa regarding Capacity Building of Officers of the overseas Pakistani's Division.</p> <p>3. Provided input for updating Hand Book of Planning Commission.</p> | <p>4. Prepared brief for Secretary P&amp;D Division on the issues relating to creation of new Ministry of Professional &amp; Technical Training.</p> |
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## Nutrition

Prepared monthly cost of food basket (Per Capita/Month) in December 2011 based on secondary data of November 2011 published by the Federal Bureau of Statistics.

The comparative points of this report are:

- The national average cost of food basket for the month of November 2011 is Rs. 1908

(2% higher than the cost in October 2011).

- The cost of food basket in federal area (Rs. 2139) is higher than national, provincial and regional average costs.
- As compared to national average cost, Provincial average cost is higher in Sindh and lower in Punjab,

Khyber Pakhton Khawa and Balochistan.

- At regional level, the cost of food basket is lowest in Multan and Bahawalpur then all other regions of Pakistan.
- The cost of food basket is higher in all regions of Sindh then national average cost.

## Energy Wing

1. Prepared summaries for ECNEC on the following projects:

- 220 KV Sub Station at Lalian (PC-I)
- Tarbela 4<sup>th</sup> Extension Hydropower Project (PC-I)
- 4 MW Hydro Power Project Thak, Chilas

PC-I (Revised).

2. Prepared comments on the following summaries for ECC:

- Energy Efficiency Audit of Fertilizer Plants.
- Natural Gas Load Management Program (Winter 2011-12).

- Ban on import of CNG Cylinders and conversion Kit.

- Low British Thermal Unit (BTU) gas policy.

3. Prepared a presentation for the Cabinet Division relating to progress and issues of Mega Projects.

## Jawaid Azfar Computer Centre (JACC)

- Dr. Muhammad Afzal, an officer of Economists Group, joined as Director General, Jawaid Azfar Computer Centre, P & D Division.

- Uploaded latest position of 2nd quarter releases under PSDP 2011-12 on the website of Planning Commission.

- Updated the webpage section on "Framework for Economic Growth" by providing information on the seminar series including presentations, videos, flyers and photo gallery.

- Attended a meeting of

DDWP of Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs to discuss a project titled "Security Arrangement in Supreme Court of Pakistan."

- Handed over "Digital Library" software to the Library Section of P & D Division.

- Uploaded Pakistan Economic Outlook—October 2011.

- Developed a Data Management System Software and provided training to its users in PIA Section.

- Provided input for rationalization of PSDP 2011-12 in respect of

the projects of IT, Telecom, SUPARCO, Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defence.

- Provided comments on the following projects of MoIT:

- National IT Development Promotion Unit (Revised).

- IT Human Resource Support to Ministries/Divisions (Extension).

- Computerization of prime Minister's Secretariat—Phase-II (Revised).

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



**Planning Commission**

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

### Projects Wing

Projects Wing prepared presentation for Cabinet on:

- Projects completed during 2008-2011:596
- Projects initiated during present Govt.:510
- Projects completed during present Govt.:75
- Projects likely to be completed 60 during the current financial year: 60



Dr. Fazl-i- Hakim Khattak Director General (Social sector) has been assigned to look after the work of Member (I&M) during the leave of Lt.Gen. (R) Shahid Niaz.

Monitored 11 development projects relating to

Social Sector, 3 development projects relating to Infrastructure Sector and 11 development projects of other sectors during the month

Member (I&M) convened the follow-up meetings with the following Institutions to resolve the outstanding issues relating to their projects.

- KPK University of Engineering and Technology Peshawar.
- International Islamic University, Islamabad.
- Institute of Space Technology, Islamabad.
- Restructuring of PIDE to function as a World Class Centre of Excellence.
- Lying of Synthetic Hockey Turf at Sargodha.
- D.I.Khan Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Radiotherapy

Dr. Fazl-i-Hakim Khattak, chaired follow-up meeting with IST officials.



An orientation session regarding operationalization of PMES software in PSDP funded project "Sustainable Land Management Project (SLMP)" was conducted in the month of December, 2011 to streamline the e-connectivity of the project with Planning Commission for online submission of project implementation data.

Director (MIS) chaired meeting of SLMP e-connectivity