

MINUTES OF THE 21ST MEETING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE
FOR REORGANIZING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
HELD ON 23-01-2020

The 21st meeting of the Implementation Committee was held on 23-01-2020 at 10:00 p.m. in Institutional Reforms Cell (IRC), the P.M. Office. It was chaired by Dr. Ishrat Husain, Advisor to the Prime Minister on Institutional Reforms and Austerity. The list of the participants is at **Annex-I**. The agenda of the meeting was as under: -

- i. Re-structuring Plan for TIP by M/o Information Technology & Telecommunication.
- ii. Presentation on proposed restructuring of Ministry of Science & Technology.
- iii. Views and Comments by Ministry of Science & Technology for placement of COMSTECH, COMSAT & ECO Science Foundation with M/o Foreign Affairs.
- iv. Views and Comments on transfer of National Academy of Performing Arts (NAPA) from Ministry of Inter Provincial Coordination to National History & Literary Heritage Division.

Agenda Item No.i. Re-structuring Plan for TIP by M/o Information Technology & Telecommunication

2. The representative of the Ministry stated that Telephone Industries of Pakistan (TIP) was established in 1953 but after the privatization of PTC in 2006 and due to technological advancement, the output of the company has substantially declined. It was also put on the list of privatizations. However, later on, it was delisted. Now the Ministry has pursuing joint venture (JV) model for its revival and Expression of Interest (EOI) has been invited. On the query by the Committee, it was revealed that the instant EOI is only for the appointment of Financial Advisor. The Committee directed that Ministry to present the restructuring plan for TIP after finalization of report by the Financial Advisor.

Agenda Item No.ii. Presentation on proposed restructuring of Ministry of Science & Technology.

3. The Committee welcomed the Minister for Science & Technology, Chaudhry Fawad Hussain and invited him to share the restructuring plan of the Ministry. To begin with, the Minister outlined the historical background of the Ministry, mentioned the steps that have been taken during the last eight months and the initiatives, which the Ministry plans to undertake in various areas during the next three years. He showed his conviction to create a civil-defence interface in the area of Research and Development. He informed that the Ministry intends to make Agriculture Mechanical Complex on the pattern of HMC. The second thrust

area is biotechnology and genetic engineering. The target is to increase of the exports of the country. Thirdly, the Ministry through PCSIR and with the help of other stakeholders wants to establish Metals and Material Research Centre. Fourthly, in order to create a culture of science and technology, they want to review the curricula. He mentioned that the subject of 'STEM' (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) is being taught in 456 schools to the students of 6th, 7th and 8th classes. Fifth area is strengthening / up-gradation of Herbal Medicine. The Minister expressed that they want to bring industry, entrepreneur and students together. The Ministry plans to make Herbal Medicine Park in Jhelum. Another important area where the Ministry has been focusing is the protection and conservation of water resources. The Ministry with the help of PCRWR and other stakeholders has targeted to provide safe drinking water at the lower rate by taking necessary measures. He also pleaded the case of appointing the heads of various organizations of M/o Science and Technology on MP-II / MP-I. The Committee suggested that for this the Ministry should consider appointment of the Heads of the departments from the pool of applicants outside the country to have a real contribution.

4. In order to achieve the aforementioned goals and may others, the vision of the Ministry was shared with the Committee as under: -

“Ministry of Science and Technology to act as a catalyst, enabler and convener of equitable and sustainable socio-economic progress using Science, Technology and Innovation as a central pillar of development in all sectors of economic activity”

The representatives also presented the detail mission of the Ministry. On this the Committee suggested that the mission should be crisp and not more than five points. The representative showed the existing structure of M/o Science and Technology (**Annex-II**) and then proposed structure (**Annex-III**). The Chair, inter-alia, commented that it seems more administrative rather than 'enabler' and 'catalyst' which is a real requirement of a scientific organization. The representatives further explained the proposed structure. The Committee suggested that the portfolios of JSA (IL) (BS-20) and JSA (HEI) (BS-20) should be merged. The Minister stated that the restructuring of organizations working under the Ministry will be presented subsequently before the Committee.

5. Towards the end of the presentation, the Minister briefed the Committee on National Commission for Science & Technology (NCST) (**Annex-IV**). He further stated that

Pakistan Council for Science and Technology (PCST) being the Secretariat of NCST and its Executive Committee is being strengthened (**Annex-V**). The Committee suggested that the composition of ECNCST may be revisited and the number of its members may be limited to 8/9.

Agenda Item No.iii Views and Comments by Ministry of Science & Technology for placement of COMSTECH, COMSAT & ECO Science Foundation with M/o Foreign Affairs

6. The Minister of Science and Technology did not agree to the proposal of transferring three organizations to M/o Foreign Affairs rather suggested that these should remain with the M/o Science and Technology. The Secretary, M/o Foreign Affairs stated that they too did not intend to take over and were only interested in invigorating the organizations as per their original mandate. The Committee therefore, recommended that the institutes under discussion may remain with M/o Science and Technology, however, the Ministry needs to develop a business plan at the earliest to improve the functionality of these institutes. The Committee further directed that M/o S&T may develop a more efficient interface with Foreign Office in respect of the institutes.

Agenda Item No.iv Views and Comments on transfer of National Academy of Performing Arts (NAPA) from Ministry of Inter Provincial Coordination to National History & Literary Heritage Division

7. The Secretary, Ministry of Inter Provincial Coordination agreed to the proposal. The Committee accordingly recommended that NAPA may be transferred from M/o IPC to M/o National History and Literary Heritage Division.

Decisions

- i. The Committee directed the Ministry of Information Technology & Telecommunication to present the restructuring / revival plan of TIP after finalization of the report by Financial Advisor.
- ii. The proposed organogram of M/o Science & Technology may be revised by creating 1-2 posts in MP-Scales for top scientists or technologists by surrendering BS-20 posts of JSA in consultation with Establishment Division and M/o Finance. The revised organogram may be brought back before the Committee. The Ministry may curtail their Mission Statement to make it crisper by reducing it into 4-5 points. Subsequently, the restructuring plan of the science and technology organizations under the administrative control of the Ministry would be presented to the Committee with rationale and justification.
- iii. M/o Science & Technology to interface with Government of Japan for collaboration and seeking assistance in the field of Science & Technology through Foreign Office.
- iv. Size of National Commission for Science & Technology be curtailed and M/o Defence Production may also be added in the array of members.
- v. Executive Committee of National Commission be formulated under Minister for Science & Technology and representation from areas of thrust be ensured.
- vi. COMSTECH, COMSAT & ECO Science Foundation may remain with M/o Science & Technology, however, the Ministry may develop a mechanism for better interface with M/o Foreign Affairs regarding these organizations.
- vii. The Committee recommended to transfer National Academy of Performing Arts (NAPA) from Ministry of Inter Provincial Coordination to National History & Literary Heritage Division.

The meeting ended with a vote thanks to and from the Chair.

Annex-I

List of participants of the 21st Meeting of Implementation Committee held on 23-01-2020

- i. Dr. Ishrat Husain, Advisor to the PM on Institutional Reforms & Austerity, Islamabad.
- ii. Syed Fakhar Imam, Chairman, Special Committee of the National Assembly on Kashmir, Islamabad.
- iii. Chaudhry Fawad Hussain, Federal Minister for Science & Technology, Islamabad.
- iv. Mr. Nadeem Babar, Advisor to the PM on Petroleum, Islamabad.
- v. Mr. Mohammad Shehzad Arbab, Advisor to the PM on Establishment, Islamabad.
- vi. Mr. Sohail Mahmood, Secretary, M/o Foreign Affairs.
- vii. Capt. (Retd). Nasim Nawaz, Secretary, M/o Science & Technology, Islamabad.
- viii. Mr. Muhammad Ali Shahzada, Secretary, M/o Inter Provincial Coordination, Islamabad.
- ix. Dr. Safdar Sohail, Special Secretary, Cabinet Division.
- x. Mr. Akhtar Jan Wazir, Additional Secretary, Establishment Division, Islamabad.
- xi. Dr. Arshad Mahmmod, Additional Finance Secretary (Exp), Finance Division, Islamabad.
- xii. Mr. M. Salman, Senior Joint Secretary, National History & Literary Heritage Division, Islamabad.
- xiii. Mr. Kamran Akhtar, Director General (ACDIS), M/o Foreign Affairs, Islamabad.
- xiv. Dr. Syed Muhammad Junaid Zaidi, Executive Director, COMSATS, Islamabad.
- xv. Dr. Tariq Masood, Joint Scientific Advisor, M/o Science & Technology, Islamabad.
- xvi. Dr. S. Zaheer Hussain, Deputy Scientific Adviser (P&C), M/o Science & Technology, Islamabad.
- xvii. Mr. Muhammad Taimur Khan, Joint Secretary, M/o Information Technology & Telecommunication, Islamabad.
- xviii. Mr. Muhammad Umer Aziz, Joint Secretary, M/o Law & Justice, Islamabad.
- xix. Mr. Qamar Zaman, Joint Secretary, Institutional Reforms Cell (IRC).
- xx. Ms. Lubna Said Ghias, Deputy Secretary (Coord).
- xxi. The Deputy Secretary, IRC, Prime Minister's Office, Islamabad