MINUTES OF THE MEETING

TASK FORCE ON AUSTERITY MEASURES & GOVERNMENT RESTRUCTURING

Date: 12th November,2018
Time: 2:30 pm to 5 pm
Venue: Prime Minister's Office, Islamabad

The 5th meeting of the Task Force on Austerity Measures & Government Restructuring was held at Prime Minister's Office under the chair of Dr. Ishrat Hussain. Following is a re-cap of the key areas of discussion and decisions regarding them.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	DECISIONS
Feedback on Consultative Sessions	Dr. Ishrat Husain informed the Task Force members that more than 25 consultative sessions had been held with various groups of civil servants across the country. These sessions had enabled him to reach out to about 700 officers.Morever,15 more sessions had been planned including a visit to Quetta. He particularly mentioned his meetings with officers of the Foreign Service of Pakistan and Police	It was decided that in view of the significance of the services like police, health and education, in improving the life of a common man, there was a greater need to focus on their delivery mechanism. In order to

	Service. It was highlighted during the discussion that Police Service was the face of the government for a common man. An improvement in its public service delivery mechanism would yield immediate dividends for the citizenry and the government. It was agreed that the first point of interface between the public and Police was the 'Thana' which needed a paradigm shift to become a service delivery point instead of place of harassment. A detailed discussion was also held on various legal frameworks that had governed the working of the police in the country, including provincial laws.	benefit from the provincial experience in these areas, it was decided to hold few meetings of the Task Force in the provincial capitals Accordingly, the next meeting was scheduled to be held in Peshawar on the 30th of November and another one in Lahore on 14th of December.
Restructuring of the Federal Government	A Working Paper on Functional Classification of the Federal Government was shared with the members of the Task Force and a detailed discussion was held on the existing and proposed lay out of Executive Bodies under the Federal Government. Members pointed out certain bodies like National Commission on Human Rights, Law and Justice Commission which were missing from the list. Members were also of the view that they needed to review the proposed plan in detail before offering their critical analysis.	It was decided that the Paper would be circulated among the Task Force members electronically. The members would evaluate the proposals contained in the paper and present their views on the proposed lay out in the next meeting scheduled to be held on the 30th of November.

		A proposal to merge various ombudsmen offices also came under discussion.	**<u>Sub Group for Revising General Financial Rules and Delegation of Financial Powers Rules was constituted comprising of the following members:</u>** 1. Mr. Salman Siddique 2. Mr. Wajid Rana 3. One Representative from Regulation Wing of Finance Division (To be nominated by Mr. Abrar Mirza, JS(Budget), Finance Division) 4. Any other member co-opted by the Sub-Group In view of the enormity of the task, it was decided that the group can co-opt other members and can also look for the possibility of getting some independent consultation.

Presentation on PFM Strategy	A presentation was made by Mr.Abrar Mirza,JS Finance on PFM Strategy	It was decided that the sub-group on PFM will co-opt relevant proposals from the presentation and incorporate them in its final presentation to be made in the next meeting of the Task Force.
Rules of Business and Job Description of the Secretary and the Federal Minister		Since these agenda items could not be taken up due to the paucity of time, it was decided that relevant working papers/presentations will be circulated among all members of the Task Force to firm up their views before the next meeting, during which these two items will be given priority.