

*REPORT OF THE MAJOR ACTIVITIES IN RESPECT OF
MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK FOR
THE MONTH OF
February 2008*

SOIL SURVEY OF PAKISTAN

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

i. National Agriculture Land Use Plan.

1. UPDATION OF LAND RESOURCE INVENTORY.

Narowal District.

- Report and maps completed and are under binding.
- **Multan and Khanewal districts**
- Taken print out of the reports “Land Resource Inventory and Agricultural Landuse Plan” for editing.
- Finalized Soil and Landform, Land Capability and Present landuse maps of Multan district.
- Finalized crop suitability map and Synoptic View map of both districts.

Sargodha district

- Report writing: Chapters “Soil Mapping Units” and “General Nature of Soils” completed.
- Chapter “Present Land Use” is in progress.
- Soil map is remained in progress.

Sialkot district

- Report writing is in progress

Layyah district

- Completed pre-field soil interpretation on SPOT images and made preparation for field survey.
- Collected “Area and production data” pertaining to district from directorate of Crop Reporting Lahore and “Crop production technology of general crops from Agricultural Information Center, Lahore.

Muzaffargarh district

- Maps preparation is remained in progress.

Mianwali district

- Report writing and maps preparation are in progress.

Vehari district

- Report writing and maps preparation are in progress.

Peshawar district (NWFP)

- Report and maps finalized and are under printing.

Kohat District. (NWFP).

- Report writing and maps completed.

- Prepared sketch of synoptic map and drafted summary of “Optimum Agricultural Landuse Plan” of the area.
- Charsadda district (NWFP)**
- Report and maps finalized and are under printing.
- Nowshera District (NWFP)**
- Report writing: Chapter “General Nature of the Soils” 50% completed.
- Hyderabad, Mitiari, Tando Muhammad Khan, Tando Allah Yar districts (Sindh)**
- Editing completed: Chapters “Land Capability” and Land Evaluation.
- Editing of Chapter “Soil Series Descriptions” is remained in progress. Rewritten 4 soil series.
- Completed the Synoptic View a summary of the report.
- Naushero Feroz district (Sindh)**
- Completed field survey (field work) of the area.
- Soil samples collected for laboratory analysis.
- Collection of relevant data of district is in progress.
- Report writing: Chapter “General Nature of the area” is in progress.
- Lodhran district**
- Report writing: Chapters “Introduction”, “General Nature of the Area” and Soil and Soil Mapping Units.
- Chapter “Land Capability” is in progress.
- Finalized Soils and Landform map.

2. DIGITIZATION/EDITING MAPS

- Editing and updating in Gujranwala-Sahiwal region Major Farm Land Types is in progress.
- Printed 30 image sheets of Rahim Yar Khan district at 1:50,000 scale from the relevant mosaic overlying soils and infra coverage.
- Prepared 2nd draft by incorporating changes in updated 1st draft soils and infra map of Sargodha district after checking.
- Re-rectified satellite image scenes and prepared mosaics pertaining to Swat and Bunar districts. Satellite data of Swat, Bunar and image scenes pertaining to Haripur and Mansehra districts copied on PVD for Regional Office, Peshawar.
- Prepared and printed 24 Nos each of title pages and generalized Development Potential maps of Hafizabad district for report.
- Re-edited and composed Synoptic Land Resource and suitability maps of Kohat district.
- Generated the boundary coverage set for Bunar, Shangla, Swat, Haripur and Mansehra districts.
- Soil map of Muzaffarabad district was composed in Arcview for the student of soil and Environmental Department, NWFP, Agricultural University, Peshawar.
- Printed out soil and landform map of district Nowshera at a scale 1:250,000 for checking and updating of soil mapping units.
- Printed out five different maps of Peshawar district.
- Image processing/rectification of spot images scenes of different areas are in progress with the collaboration of SUPARCO.

ii) Transfer of soil Technology to Agriculture Departments and Farmers

NWFP

- Completed and submitted soil survey report of the farms of two progressive farmers of Abbottabad district under TST.

BALUCHISTAN

Mastung district

Training completed of Agricultural Extension Staff and Farmers of the district.

iii) National Institute of Research in Soils and Geomatics

- Demonstration was made to the Ph.D. student of Sindh Agriculture University Tando Jam about pitafi soil series.
- Assisted and briefed M.Sc. student from Soils and Environmental Department, NWFP, Agriculture University, Peshawar about the Salt effected soils of his project area.
- Assistance/guidance was provided tod the M.Sc. and Ph.D. students of the following universities and colleges:
- Government college university Lahore.
- Punjab University Lahore.
- Agriculture University Faisalabad.

b. NON PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- Soil Correlation: Classified the soils of Turbat and part of Awaran districts and issued a “Corrigendum”.
- Analysed 40 soil samples (pH-24, Organic Matter-20, Cation Exchange Capacity-20 and Alkaline Earth Carbonates-80 samples).
- 7 soil samples were analysed for Mechanical Analysis of a student of G.C. University, Lahore.
- 65 soil and 30 plant samples of a M.Phil. student from G.C. University, Lahore were analysed for Phosphorous.

c. Miscellaneous

- A team from Oilseed Development Department, Islamabad visited Regional office Peshawar wqs briefed about the soils of Mardan district land some other technical matters of their interest were discussed.
- Attended meeting of Board of Studies at Agricultural University, Peshawar.

ECONOMIC WING OF MinFAL

Brief for ECC Meetings

- Prepared summaries for weekly prices of agricultural commodities and fertilizer for Secretary and Additional Secretary MinFAL.
- Briefs for ECC meetings held on 15 and 25th February, 2008 was prepared.

Publications

- Agricultural Statistics of Pakistan 2006-07 is being printed by the Printing Corporation of Pakistan Islamabad. This office is pressing hard for quick printing of the publication.
- The proof reading of the publication “Fruit, Vegetable and condiments statistics 2006-07” has been done and submitted to Printing Corporation of Pakistan, Islamabad for printing.
- The proof reading of the publication “Crops Area and Production (by districts) 2006-07 has been done and submitted to Printing Corporation of Pakistan for printing.
- Date Chart for major and minor crops for the year 2007-08 updated.

Briefs for Joint Ministerial Commission

- Prepared brief for 29th FAO Regional Conference for the Near East, Cairo-Egypt 1-5 March 2008.
- Prepared brief on USA for Delegation of American Business Council (ABC).
- Prepared brief for the Second Session of Pakistan-Italy Joint Economic Commission (JEC).

Agricultural Credit

- Prepared brief for the Secretary for the meeting of “Agricultural Credit Advisory Committee” held on 12th February 2008 at SBP, Karachi.
- Processed the complaint of Mr. Mohin Lal S/o Dandomal against Ghulam Hussain Chagaro, Manager Zarai Taraqati Bank Samaro branch.
- Data on Agricultural Credit was collected from different financial institutions for the month of January 2008.
- Prepared draft “Working Paper for the 88th Meeting of Federal Committee on Agriculture”.

Other Activities

- Reminders issued to Crop Reporting Offices in the Provinces for supply of pending data for the year 2007-08.
- Chapter of agriculture for annual report of the observance and implementation of principles of policy 2006-07 of the Cabinet Division was updated and submitted for approval.
- Tables for outlook USDA (2017) were checked and updated.
- Press cuttings from the daily Jang, Dawn and Business Recorder for the preparation of briefs for ECC meetings were prepared.

Meetings.

- Economic Consultant, Director and Research Officer (Credit) attended the meeting of “Agricultural Credit Advisory Committee” held on 12th February, 2008 at SBP, Karachi.
- Economic Consultant attended briefing/presentation to Secretary for ECC meeting held on 15th February 2008.

PAKISTAN OILSEED DEVELOPMENT BOARD

SUNFLOWER

A record sunflower cultivation on an area of 1,070,543 acres has been so far achieved and this acreage may further increase by the close of sowing season. The province-wise achievement/area sown is as under:-

Targets and achievements of sunflower in 2007-08

Provinces	Area (000 Acres)	Area sown (Acres)
Punjab	400,000	386,757
Sindh	620,000	619,494
NWFP	25,000	22,324
Balochistan	55,000	41,968
Total	1,100,000	1,070,543

CANOLA

The sowing season of canola crop during 2007-08 has completed in the country. Canola has been cultivated on an area of 401,720 acres – surpassing the current target by 7% and 12% over the last year achievement of 359,391 acres. The crop is reported in good standing and higher yield is expected.

OILPALM

The oil palm seedlings, kept in pre-nursery and post nursery are in good condition and growing well. The development work is in progress at private/public farms. An area of 650 acres has been planted at private farms and 1510 acres at public private farms while 60 acres have been planted at Viyaro Farm Lasbella and 150 acres has been planted by the growers of Balochistan. As a whole, total of 2260 acres is sown at state land, public and private farms in the coastal areas of Sindh and Balochistan.

TRAINING/SEMINAR/PRESENTATION

Nine sunflower refresher courses in different sunflower areas regarding its cultivation campaign were organized by PODB with collaboration of Agriculture Extension, Punjab during the month of February, 2008. The respective Regional Managers, PODB delivered lectures on sunflower production technology.

MEDIA COVERAGE

Regional Manager, Multan participated in “Kissan Kahani” program of Rohi T.V. channel on 6th, 7th and 21st February, 2008 telecasted between 6:20 PM to 7:00 PM in same day.

MEETINGS/VISITS

The President of Pakistan was pleased to chair a meeting to review the overall strategy for supply of essential food items and the comparative economics of cultivation of oilseed on February 02, 2008. It was desired that MinFAL/PODB should heftically undertake to increase productivity as well as the area under cultivation of oilseeds; the government should provide incentives for increased cultivation of oilseeds to meet 50% of the demand through local supplies by 2012. The provincial government to undertake exercise to identify potential areas for cultivation of oilseed crops.

Incharge, Oilpalm Farm Vinder attended Project Director Office, Oilpalm Development Project (ODP), Karachi on February 06, 2008. They discussed the strategy on development work and other related matters.

Mr. Faisal Iqbal, Regional Manager, Pakistan and Central Asian Re-publics MPO Council visited Project Director Office, ODP, Karachi on February 07, 2008 and discussed the current market position of palm oil and its increasing demand in Pakistan.

Managing Director (MD), PODB visited Provincial Oilseed Directorate (POD), PODB Karachi on February 13, 2008. He also visited Project Director Office, ODP, Karachi and was briefed about the progress for the establishment of Oil Mill near Thatta.

MD, PODB visited IFFCO Pakistan (Pvt) Limited, Karachi on February 13, 2008. General Manager, IFFCO has desired to establish an oil seed extraction project in Pakistan at Port Qasim with the capacity of 3,000 tones per day. PODB and IFFCO will coordinate in this regard.

Provincial Director (PD), Sindh met with Director (Crops), Agriculture Extension in his office at Hyderabad February 15, 2008 on and discussed sunflower cultivation in Sindh and other related matters.

PD, Sindh visited sunflower cultivation at Lakhi Farm and adjacent areas on February 23, 2008 and observed that 10-15% crop was affected due to cold temperature.

FEDERAL SEED CERTIFICATION & REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT

1. Field Crop Inspection: -

At field stations of different regions, about 120 acres of different crops planted for seed production, both in public and private sector were inspected to verify for field crop standards. The crops inspected in the field included Potato, Oil seeds and Radish. Crop-wise detail of crop inspection is as under.

S.No.	Crop	Number of Acreage			Exp.Yield
		Inspected	Accepted	Rejected	MT
1	Potato	5	5	00	40
2	Oil seeds	105	79	26	64
3	Radish	10	10	00	7
	Total	120	94	26	111

Seed Sampling and Testing

Public Private Sector's seed agencies offered 12080 MT seed of different crops for testing/certification and 9879 MT seed was up to the standard. Major testing included that of Paddy, Cotton, Okra, Mung, Maize, Millet, Seed after processing/re-tests while in some labs testing have also been reported. Seed-wise detail is given as under:-

S.No.	Seed	Quantity(MT)			Remarks
		Tested	Accepted	Rejected	
1	Paddy	6407	5677	730	Include both before and after processing testing
2	Cotton	5231	3768	1463	
3	Mung	295	295	00	
4	Okra	133	125	08	
5	Maize	10	10	00	
6	Millet	04	04	00	
	Total	12080	9879	2201	

3. Post Check Seed Testing:

More than 185 Seed samples representing about 1737 MT of Vegetable imported from abroad submitted by different field stations were tested at Central Seed Testing Laboratory Islamabad. 1737 MT of tested seed was within prescribed standards.

WTO Activities

- The department submitted its comments on (Nice Classification of Good and Services) regarding the revision of class-42 and addition of three classes i.e. 43,44 & 45 in the 4th schedule of the Trade Marks Ordinance 2001.
- With reference to e-mail received from Mr. Eric A. Kueneman, FAO Crop and Grass Land Service, Rome, Italy submitted its comments on the Global Partnership Initiative for Plant Breeding Capacity Building (GIPB).

- Comments were submitted to MinFAL regarding the incorporation of the offences punishable under chapter XIII of the Trade Marks Ordinance 2001 in the schedule of FIA Act 1974 (VIII of 1975).
- MinFAL was informed about the latest development on the enactment of Plant Breeders Rights.
- The department submitted the Seed (Amendment) Bill to the MinFAL for approval further submission to the Law, Justice and Human Rights Division for vetting and opinion.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANT PROTECTION.

1. LOCUST SITUATION.

Pakistan remained free from gregarious locust activity. No solitary adult locust was reported in the summer breeding areas during the reporting period.

Weather

Cold and dry weather prevailed over the entire locust breeding areas during the reporting period.

Forecast

The locust activity may remain calm the locust breeding area due to un-expected cold and dry weather in the coming month in the region.

2. PLANT QUARANTINE

8214 imports and export consignments were examined for quarantine pests. A revenue of Rs.4923190 was collected for the services rendered and fines imposed.

The Central Plant Quarantine Laboratory examined 11 samples of vegetable seeds. There were found to be free of quarantine pests.

3. REGISTRATION

32 pesticides were granted registration / import permission. A total revenue of Rs. 1,316,000/- was realized through treasury challan as Registration/Permission/Renewal and Revised fee. Another amount of Rs.375, 000/= was collected through treasury challans as sample analysis fee from registration of Pesticides under APO 1971. A revenue of 46,000/- was collected through treasury challan as registration fee of formulation/refilling and repacking plants. Break-up is as under:-

Registration fee	Rs. 1,010, 000
Renewal fee	Rs. 259,500
Amendment/late fee	Rs. 46,500
Sample analysis fee	Rs. 375, 000
Formulation/refilling	Rs.46,000
Grand Total	Rs. 1,737,000

4. AERIAL PEST CONTROL

The Department did not receive any demand from Provincial Governments for aerial spray during the report period.

FOOD WING OF MinFAL.

Directorate of Food Accounts

The main function/activity of this Directorate is opening of letter of credit for import of wheat. Since no L/C had been opened during the month of February 2008, as such report for the period 01-02-2008 to 29-02-2008 may please be treated 'Nil'.

Directorate General of Food, Karachi

There is no major activity in the Directorate General of Food, Karachi during the month of February, 2008 due to reason that there is no wheat import. However, the position of commodities received under World Food Program is as under:-

i)	opening balance	3087.190 m tons
ii)	receipt	343.955 “
iii)	total	3431.145 “
iv)	dispatches	656.610 “
v)	closing balance	2774.535 “

ANIMAL QUARANTINE DEPARTMENT

The specific monthly activities of the Animal Quarantine Department are given below:-

1. No. of samples processed and Health Certificate issued.	1. Export = 1137 No. 2. Import = 71 No.
2. Revenues collected and deposited.	Rs. - 1.758 - Millions
3. Expenditure incurred.	Rs. 0.681 Millions

The directive of PM is being implemented in the true spirit.

MARINE FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

Marine Fisheries Department, Government of Pakistan, Karachi is responsible for management and exploitation of fisheries resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone of Pakistan. The department is also engaged in biological, hydrological and quality control research activities. In addition, the department performs the function of provincial coordination, international liaison, compilation and publication of fisheries statistics, issuance of certificate of health, quality and origin for export commodities and fishermen training etc.

2. Fish and shrimp samples of 2 different species were examined for study of length-weight relationship, sex ratio, maturity, food and feeding habit and fecundity etc.

3. Seafood export during the month of February 2008 was recorded to be about 6750 m. tons (estimated) valued at US \$ 10.122 million as compared to February, 2007 when the export was 6124 m. tons valued at US \$ 9.98 million. No landings from deep sea fishing

have been reported in February 2008 as no vessel under license issued by Marine Fisheries Department is operated in Exclusive Economic Zone of Pakistan.

Reduction in Seafood post Harvest Losses by Improvement of Fish holds of Local Fishing Boats.

- Four boats have been earmarked for modification.
- Karachi Ship Yard and Engineering Works has been entrusted to under take the boat modification program.
- KSEW has carried out inspection of three boats.
- As per decision of PM meeting on 7-02-2008 work will start after the visit of stakeholders/officers to countries where boats have fish holds designed for racks and use IPCs.

Stock Assessment Survey Programme in EEZ of Pakistan through chartering Research Vessel for Marine Fisheries Department.

- Post of Project Director already filled.
- The recruitment process of other project posts have been kept pending upto availability of some suitable research vessel.
- Procurement of local assembled vehicle is being under processed .
- The technical evaluation of the all four bids have been done by the foreign consultant at Norway.
- Bidders have extended the validity of the bids for another two months.
- The bidder fulfilling the maximum requirement is being asked to arrange the schedule for physically inspection of the vessel to verify the equipments and fishing gear onboard the vessel.

Accreditation of Quality Control Laboratories of Marine Fisheries Department.

- Tenders evaluated. Purchase order being placed .
- Pre-receipt bill obtained MinFAL is being requested for approval of advance payment.
- Automatic absorption spectrometer got repaired. Bill obtained and in the process of payment.
- Interviews for non-gazetted posts have been completed and offer letters issued to select candidates. Interviews for non-gazetted posts have been completed and offer letters issued to select candidates.
- Gwadar Port Authority have been approached for a piece of land.
- Pakistan Public Works Department (PWD) has furnished estimates. The amount will be transferred to Pakistan PWD for undertaking worked.
- Surveillance visit of accredited Microbiology Laboratory at MFD has been carried out by Norwegian Accreditation (NA) in December 2007. Chemical Laboratory at MFD will be inspected by NA in April 2008. Application has already been lodged.

Establishment of an Integrated National Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (NAPHIS) (MFD component).

- Case for installation PMT has been initiated.
- Recruitment against 24 posts is carried out by NAPHIS Coordination Cell. Applications being scrutinized.
- One vehicle is being purchased by NAPHIS Coordination Cell.
- Initial work on training of staff has been completed.

OUT LOOK

ATTACHED

1. Wheat Commissioner.
2. Monthly activities of PARC.
3. Monthly Progress Report Development Projects of MinFAL for the month of February, 2008.

Economic Wing

Brief for ECC Meetings

- Prepared Summaries for weekly prices of agricultural commodities and fertilizer for Secretary and Additional Secretary, MinFAL.
- Briefs for ECC meetings held on 11 November, 2007 was prepared.

Dissemination of Publications

- Proof for five volumes of “50 Years Agricultural Statistics of Pakistan” was checked and the publications are at the final stage for printing.

Agricultural Credit

- Data on agricultural credit was collected from different financial institutions for the month of February, 2008.
- Prepared brief for Secretary, MinFAL on disbursement position of agricultural credit for the month of February 2008.

Brief for Joint Ministerial Meeting

- Prepared brief on Tunisia and sent to IC-III Section, MinFAL, Islamabad.

Other Activities

- Reminders to crop reporting offices of provinces for supply of rabi crop estimates for the year 2006-07 were issued.
- Manuscript for the Year Book 2006-07 was prepared and submitted for approval.
- Letters/reminders for supply of data for publication “Agricultural Statistics of Pakistan 2006-07” were issued to different departments/organizations and updating of the tables is in progress.
- Computerized the fruit, vegetables and condiments data for the publication “Fruit, Vegetable and Condiments Statistics 2006-07”.
- Computerized the data for the publication “Crops Area and Production by Districts for the year 2006-07”.
- Prepared final estimate of Wheat and Groundnut Crops for the year 2006-07.
- Incorporated the data in FAO Questionnaire-Sub Group on Tropical Fruits.
- Tables for the Economic survey 2006-07 were checked, updated and sent to Ministry of Finance.
- Statement showing area, production for second and final estimates of wheat for the year 2002-03 to 2006-07 was prepared for E.C for a meeting in B-Block.
- Province-wise final figures of wheat crop for the year 2006-07 were made and faxed to Wheat Commissioner on his request.
- Prepared working paper of the 87th meeting of Federal Committee on Agricultural (Rabi Crops) meeting is proposed to be held in 1st week of October, 2007.

- Prepared views/comments on Terms of Reference of Human Resource Management Committee of ZTBL for submission to Additional Secretary-I.
- Collected and submitted presentations of different development projects to Secretary, MinFAL for approval and convening of meeting on "Government's Initiative for Agri Credit Demand".
- Press cuttings from the daily Jang and Dawn for the preparation of briefs for ECC Meetings were made.

Meetings

- Economic Consultant attended the meeting of the National Assembly Standing Committee on Planning and Development held on 03-09-2007..
- Economic Consultant attended the meeting of Introduction for out put Based Budgeting held on 06-09-2007..
- Economic Consultant attended the meeting on Tariff Escalation held on 08-09-2007..
- Economic Consultant attended the meeting of Purchase/Tender Committee for the Project "Strengthening of Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity of Plan Wing" MinFAL under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Plan) held on 10-09-2007.
- Economic Consultant attended the meeting on the System of Financial Control of Budgeting 2006 under the chairmanship of Secretary, MinFAL held on 20-09-2007.
- Economic Consultant attended the meeting on the Progress of ASPL-II Funded Project "Monitoring of Crops Through Satellite Technology" – to give presentation to the Secretary/Additional Secretary-II on their projects held on 25-09-2007.

Korangi Fisheries Harbour Authority

During the month the port operational activities remained low mainly because of the closure of deep-sea fishing resulting into sharp decline of the revenue earnings of the authority. The Prime Minister during the presentation by Secretary MinFAL and CEO, Competitiveness Support Fund (CSF) on the status of EU ban on fisheries import from Pakistan on 2nd January 2008 has issued a number of directives. In order to operationalize Korangi Fisheries Harbour immediately, the Prime Minister has issued following specific directives:

- (a) dispersal of boats to Korangi Fish Harbour as earlier directed on an immediate basis.
- (b) Immediate steps may be taken to make the Korangi Fisheries Harbour (KFH) fully functional. Investment may be made with the approval of the competent forum. Sindh Government should deliver immediately on the undertaking earlier given. Operations of outsourcing and transfer to Government of Sindh may also be examined.
- (c) Review diversification of fish landing to other fish harbour to reduce congestion at Karachi Fish Harbour including development of Gwadar and Pasni Fish Harbours in Balochistan effective operation of Korangi Fish Harbour and extension of KFH.

In compliance with PM's directives, several follow up meetings were held during the month. An investment plan for the improvement of the existing facilities and certain additional development works to meet the EU standards of quality and food safety has been prepared by KoFHA which shall soon be submitted to the quarters concerned for approval. For the shifting of agreed numbers of boats from Karachi to Korangi Fish Harbour and provisioning infrastructure facilities, GOS is actively persuaded.

Operation of Deep-sea Vessels

Under the existing Deep Sea Fishing Policy of 1995 as amended in year 2001, the GOP had allowed operation of 20 Nos. medium-sized fishing vessels in Zone-II (12-35 NM), 10 Nos. larger-sized fishing vessels and tuna long liners in Zone-III (i.e. beyond 35 NM).

Upon expiry of validity period of three years, the operational activities of medium-sized trawlers are stand still since October, 2005 at Korangi Fish Harbour. Although MFD has invited applications in year 2007 for the grant of licenses in Zone-II & III however because of the poor response only 3 numbers LOI have so far been issued for the award of licenses for the operation of medium-sized fishing tradwlers. But the parties have not yet succeeded in completing the required formalities to bring the tradwlers. During the 38th IMSC's meeting held on January 3, 2008 it has been decided to invite the applications afresh for the operation of vessels in Zone-II & III. Under the present condition when the fishing area of Zone-II has been reduced, it is unlikely to have any interest from the foreign collaborators to operate medium-sized trawlers in future.

The GOS has promulgated rules under Sindh Fisheries Ordinance containing fee tariff and other conditionality for the operation of Fiberglass and steel hull boats in the territorial water on 19-11-2007. It is expected that the licenses to M/s ABC Gold (Pvt) Limited for the operation of 11 Tuna Long Liner shall soon be renewed. However, in pursuant to the decision taken in the 38th meeting of IMSC LOI has already been issued by MFD on 13-02-2008 to M/s ABC Gold (Pvt) Limited and M/s Tai Pak Fisheries (Pvt) Limited respectively for operation of 9+2 fiberglass tuna long liner beyond the territorial waters. Since commencement of the operation of MST in Zone-II, the Authority has earned total revenue of Rs.94,798,906 million on account of commission on the landed fish catch 10,079 MT against 174 trips, berthing charges and development cess. Beside, an additional amount of Rs.46,344,152 million has been earned by the Authority on account of Cess Development and non-utilization fee from the operation of larger vessels in Zone-III.

Establishment of Fish Processing Plants

To improve fish landings and revenue earnings of Korangi Fisheries Harbour an investment plan is ready to upgrade the existing harbour facilities as per international standards to minimize the post harvest losses at landing sites. The availability of best quality raw material shall promote the establishment of processing plants for value added products and thereby enhance foreign exchange earnings. The construction works of three processing plants for value added seafood products remained under progress. One fish Processing unit for the canned sardines and Indian market for the export to US market has started trial production during the month are likely to commence commercial production in March 2008. One more plant of IQF shrimp is likely to start production in next two to three months. It is expected that upon completion of these fish processing plants the local fishing boats will start calling on Korangi Fisheries Harbour to discharge their fish catch and a trigger a chain of activities.

Agricultural & Livestock Products Marketing & Grading Department (ALMA)

1. Daily wholesale prices of 186 items were collected from Karachi market and disseminated through a daily Market News Service Bulletin to the press and different Government, Semi Government and Private Organization.
2. Daily wholesale prices of 88 items were collected from Karachi market and supplied to Radio Pakistan, Karachi for broadcast with copies to the Planning and Development Department, Government of Sindh and Federal Bureau of Statistics, Karachi.

3. Wholesale and retail prices of 24 essential food items for daily use collected from 11 important markets of the country on daily basis and compared as well as issued on weekly basis.
4. Fortnightly wholesale prices of Potato, Onion and Maize at Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar and Quetta markets were supplied to Assistant Chief Export, Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad.
5. Fortnightly wholesale and retail prices of essential food items at Karachi market were supplied to Assistant Director (Agri.), Islamabad.
6. Monthly average wholesale prices of milk were collected from the important markets of Pakistan and supplied to the Federal Bureau of Statistics, Karachi.
7. Monthly average wholesale prices of about 70 Agricultural and Livestock Products at Karachi market were collected and supplied to Station Supply Depot, ASC, Karachi and to other Army Depots in Karachi.
8. Daily wholesale prices of 186 important items prevalent at Karachi market were supplied to Daily Newspaper "BEOPAR" Karachi on daily basis.
9. Monthly wholesale and retail prices of Sugar (refined) prevalent in important markets of the country were supplied to Section Officer (Food-I), Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Islamabad.
10. Weekly average wholesale and retail prices of Wheat and Wheat Flour prevalent in important markets of Pakistan were supplied to the Section Officer (Wheat) and its copies to Joint Secretary (Food), Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Islamabad and Senior Marketing Officer (Price), Islamabad.
11. A monthly wholesale and retail price review of 14 essential food items covering 10 important markets of country was prepared and submitted to the Secretary, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Islamabad.
12. Draft Summary on prices of Potato (White), Potato (Red), Onion and Pulses were prepared and supplied to Commissioner Minor Crop, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Islamabad for the meeting of Economic Coordination Committee.

AGRICULTURE POLICY INSTITUTE

Policy Report

- The work on Cotton Policy for 2008-09 crop has been initiated.
- The work on Sugarcane policy for 2008-09 crop is in progress.

Chairman's Meetings

- Chaired Seminar on "Profitable Banana Cultivation" which was organized by Fauji Fertilizer Company Limited at Tando Adam, Sanghar on 1-02-2008.
- Meeting held with District Nazim, Agriculture (Ext & Res), Farmers, Irrigation, Revenue, Livestock Food Department, ZTBL, Commercial Banks, Seed Fertilizer, Pesticide Companies, Dealers, Water Management, SSC and FSC&RD officials and discussed with them the agricultural, livestock production/development related problems and Crop Maximization Program of MinFAL in Mirpurkhas district on 2-02-2008.
- Visited field areas around Mirpurkhas district on 3-02-2008.
- Meeting held with Director General, Agriculture (Research) the Scientists of Agriculture Research Institute, (ARI) Tandojam and discussed Kharif programme of the Institute and visited fields of ARI on 4-02-2008.
- Participated in the Selection Committee meeting for appointment of Project Director, Federal Government funded project in Balochistan at Quetta on 8-02-2008.

- Chaired the Seminar on “Profitable Sugarcane Cultivation” organized by Fauji Fertilizer Company Limited at Kot Addu on 12-02-2008.
- Chaired the meeting on estimation of Agriculture Credit Requirement based on cropped area held in the Committee Room of P&D Department at Karachi on 13-02-2008.

Policy Analysis

- Monitoring international prices of fertilizers.
- Monitoring Indian prices of wheat, diesel and fertilizer.
- Made presentation on the applicability of Louisiana formula in Pakistan.
- Working on the methodology of estimating credit requirement for agriculture sector.
- Work on preparation of the presentation on wheat scenario 2007-08 crop is in progress.
- Analysis of milling 5 years data to work out Louisiana formula according to Pakistan milling environment is in progress.
- Format development work for Data Bank is in progress.
- Collected and analysed the domestic market price and trade data on major and minor crops for the month of January, 2008.

Pakistan Journal of Agricultural Economics

- Preliminary draft of the Pakistan Journal of Agricultural Economics is under review.

Tariff Overhand

- As desired by the MinFAL, Chief ATD carried out an impact analysis of the Tariff Reduction under the following three options of special products as proposed in the WTO Modality Text of February 8, 2008 on Agriculture. This analysis has been carried out for 12 developing countries with a clear comparison of their Tariff-Overhand.
- Responded to the updates on WTO agriculture negotiations received from Permanent Mission of Pakistan at Geneva particularly on the lists of tropical products, tariff escalation, preferential erosion products of Pakistan.

Field Survey

- Visited five flour mills located in I-9 and I-10 sector of Islamabad for collecting data on recovery percentage and their sale prices for calculating cost and income on processing of wheat flour during 22-23 February, 2008.
- Finalized data entry work of mini field surveys on sugarcane and seed cotton 2007-08 crops in the Punjab, Sindh and NWFP provinces, sugarmills and gur making growers. Results of field surveys are under process.
- Preliminary sampling work for three stage sample design on wheat 2007-08 is in progress.
- Collected and analyzed the domestic market price and trade data on major and minor crops for the month of January, 2008.
- Visited the first round of the monitoring team designed for benchmark survey for CMP-II (crop maximization project-II). MinFAL, World Food Programme (WFP), PARC and API on conducting bench mark survey in 1012 villages of CMP-II, in Balochistan and also submitted report to concerned.
- Attended workshop and monitored survey work in the NWFP under CMP-II.
- Attended several meetings of “Benchmark survey for CMP-II (crop maximization project-II). MinFAL, World Food Programme (WFP, PARC and API.

Miscellaneous

- Attended meeting on estimation of credit methodology in Karachi on 13-02-2008.
- Attended meeting of estimation of credit methodology for AJK and NA's in MinFAL.
- Attended meeting of the technical sub-committee to look into the application of cane payment formula and core sampler installation.
- Prepared presentation for Secretary MinFAL on Agriculture in India and Pakistan and fertilizer subsidy on DAP.
- Preparation of presentation on World Bank 2008 report on agriculture for development is in progress.
- Prepared report on activities of API and future plan for the 88th meeting of FCA.
- Preparation of working paper for the Standing Committee meeting on cotton 2008-09 crop is in hand.
- Study on the issue of Agriculture Income Tax is being conducted for the MinFAL.
- Review of literature for the study on terms of trade for agriculture in hand.
- Trained B.Sc. (Hons) students, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad under intership programme relating to methodology of cost of production, analysis regarding area, production and yield for various crops.
- As a member the Technical Group of PARC attended the meeting on "Research Priorities for 4th Batch of Agricultural Linkage Programme (ALP) held on 22nd February, 2008.
- Attended the meeting regarding competitiveness of Pakistan held on 7-02-2008 in the office of Additional Secretary-I at MinFAL.
- As desired by the IC Wing of the MinFAL prepared and submitted training proposals for Five-Year Development Programme on Trade and Economic Cooperation signed with China. Proposal mainly related to Sugar sector.
- Attended the meeting on restructuring of Economic, Trade and Investment Wing of the MinFAL held on 27-02-2008 in MinFAL.
- Prepared a brief for Secretary Agriculture for twenty ninth FAO Regional Conference for the near East to be held from 1-3 March 2008 at Cairo, Egypt.
- Attended national consultation meeting of CABI to prioritize and preparation of action plan for the stakeholders organized by PARC at Central Directorate of CABI, Bio-Science center for South Asia, Rawalpindi.
- Attended stakeholder consultative workshop on National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) organized by Ministry of Environment, Islamabad.