



PUNJAB AGRICULTURE COMMISSION
AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB



Subject: MINUTES OF THE 8TH MEETING OF AGRICULTURE COMMISSION HELD ON 17.07.2017 UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, PUNJAB AT AGRICULTURE HOUSE, DAVIS ROAD, LAHORE

8th meeting of Agriculture Commission was held on 17-07-2017 at 1:00 p.m. under the chairmanship of Minister for Agriculture / Vice Chairman of Agriculture Commission in Darbar Hall, Civil Secretariat, Lahore.

The meeting started with recitation of the Holy Quran and welcome note by the Chair, Secretary Agriculture Commission briefed the house about the agenda of the meeting. Number of decisions were taken on detailed discussion on agenda items are given as under:

Sr. No.	Issue	Decision	Action Required	Responsibility
I.	Overbilling by WAPDA	<ol style="list-style-type: none">I. In continuation of the action taken during the last meeting, representatives from LESCO and MEPCO were invited to the meeting to update the house regarding the issue of overbilling the farmers.II. The representatives from MEPCO were unable to attend the meeting due to pre-scheduled commitments. However, the officials from LESCO were present and apprised the members regarding the action taken on this issue.III. It was decided that Secretary Agriculture will personally take up the matter with the DG LESCO and MEPCO for immediate resolution and would request them to launch a formal inquiry against the corrupt officials.IV. It was also suggested that in instances where inquiries have been undertaken already and claim for overbilling has been established, compensation to the grieved farmers must be provided at the earliest.	Letter to DG LESCO and MEPCO for resolution of Overbilling.	Agriculture Department



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<p>II. Outstanding payments of Rs. 2.5 Billion to Sugarcane growers by Sugar Mill Owners.</p>	<p>I. Representatives of Kissan Ittehad apprised the house that they have received cheques from sugar mills that have not been honored by the banks. II. Cane Commissioner told the house that majority of the payments have been disbursed by the sugar mill owners. III. The members, however, argued that the definition of "disbursed" needs to be revisited as issuance of cheques do not necessarily mean disbursement of payments. In light of the same, the cane commissioner was asked to provide details of the actual transfers that have been made to the farmers. IV. The Cane Commissioner apprised the members of the commission that the commissioner's office takes action against sugar mills who issue such cheques. However, for his office to be made aware of the same, farmers and their representatives must report such incidents. In view of the same, he requested the representatives of Kissan Ittehad to report such cases to his office and ensured that necessary action shall be taken against the relevant sugar mills. V. It was decided that Cane Commissioner, Punjab will collect details from the sugar mills regarding payment made through cheques and through cash. It was also decided that he will ensure outstanding payment till 31st July, 2017 and will take necessary action under the law against defaulting sugar mills.</p>	<p>Hold meetings with sugar mill owners and farmers till 31st July 2017.</p>	<p>Cane Commissioner</p>
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Sr. No.	Issue	Decision	Action Required	Responsibility
III.	Sub-committees Review Progress			
A.	Levy of Agriculture Income Tax	<ol style="list-style-type: none">I. The convener for the sub-committee, Mr. Hamid Malhi, has already submitted its recommendations to the Commission.II. It was decided that the recommendations made by the subcommittee should be sent to Chief Ministers' office for approval.III. The AIT subcommittee was also given the task to initiate a Land lease policy. Mr. Hamid Malhi told the members that the initial work could not be started due to unavailability of data form the respective departments.	Convening PAC meeting to be chaired by CM Provision of land lose data by BOR	PAC BOR
B.	Establishment of Small Farmers Development Corporation for integrated farming	<ol style="list-style-type: none">I. The committee members apprised the commission that the sub-committee remained dysfunctional due to the resignation of its convener, Dr. Akmal Hussain.II. Secretary Agriculture Department, informed the members that Dr. Akmal Hussain's resignation has been rejected by the CM.III. It was agreed that, Secretary PAC and the Secretary PAD shall request Dr. Akmal Hussain to resume his office as the convener of the subcommittee.IV. It was also suggested that the members of the Commission shall collectively sign a letter addressed to Dr. Akmal, requesting him to reconsider his decision and join the sub-committee.V. Ms. Saira Itekhhar, a member of the sub-committee, suggested the committee should be mandated to initiate work on social mobilization and social development for farmers in the rural areas.	Secretary PAD and Secretary PAC already contacted Dr. Akmal Hussain via telephone and email.	PAC



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		<p>VI. The commission members unanimously approved that the mandate of the sub-committee be extended to include social mobilization and social development.</p> <p>I. II. Dr. Iqrar informed the commission that a summary of PAMPPRA Law has been sent to CM's office for approval. Moreover, a presentation for the same has been requested by the CM's office. The PAC staff was directed to circulate the draft law among the commissions' members after receiving the same from Dr. Iqrar Ahmed Khan.</p>		<p>PAMPPRA Law draft to be shared with commission members by Dr. Iqrar Ahmed Khan</p>	<p>Convener – Agriculture Marketing System – Dr. Iqrar Ahmed Khan</p>
		<p>I. It was decided that the cost of production committee will submit its recommendations within one month of the meeting.</p> <p>II. It was also suggested that the indicative prices may be brought under the purview of the sub-committee on the cost of production.</p> <p>III. The Secretary, Punjab Agriculture Department, apprised the house that an Agriculture Price Commission is being envisaged by the department and the members of PAC shall be updated once tangible recommendations have been formulated in this regard.</p>		<p>Deliberations by concerned "cost of Production" Sub-committee.</p>	<p>Convener – Cost of Production - Hussain Jahaniyan Gardezi</p>
		<p>IV. Dr. Asif, from the University of Agriculture Faisalabad, was nominated to replace Dr. Ashfaq, who is currently unavailable for the business of the sub-committee. The nomination was approved by the House</p>			
		<p>I. The members were briefed that the final recommendations of the subcommittee have been sent to CM Office for approval.</p> <p>II. The Secretariat staff was directed to circulate these recommendations among the committee members.</p>		<p>Circulation of sub-committee recommendations.</p>	<p>PAD Panning wing</p>
C.	Agriculture Marketing System				
D.	Cost of Production				
E.	Service restructuring of Agriculture Scientist				



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F.	De-capping of Milk & Meat Prices	<ol style="list-style-type: none">I. The members of the sub-committee apprised the commission that the recommendations had been sent to the Livestock Department for review.II. The representative from the Livestock department was instructed to forward these recommendations to the CM's office for approval.	Submission of concerned sub committee's recommendations to CM.	Livestock Department
G.	Formulation of Agriculture Policy	<ol style="list-style-type: none">I. Dr. Iqrar informed the house that 25 chapters out of 38 chapters have been completed and are available upon request.II. It was suggested that the completed chapters may be shared with the PAC Secretariat Staff, who shall, in return, share these with the commission members.		Dr. Iqrar Ahmed Khan convenor subcommittee on Agri Policy
IV.	Miscellaneous Issues	<ol style="list-style-type: none">I. It was decided that instead of sharing the information via multiple email and WhatsApp threads, it would be more convenient to consolidate this information under a single banner.II. The Secretariat Staff for PAC was directed to coordinate with the IT section of the PAD to generate a tab for PAC on the PAD's website or set up an independent website, where all relevant information be made available.	Secretary Agriculture has already directed Director Information, Agriculture Department to add information on PAD website. PAC to follow up with display of additional information.	PAC and Director of info Agri Department.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks from the chair.

No. /23 /PAC/2017

Dated: 3 August 2017

Secretary Agriculture Commission

- i. All members of Agriculture Commission.
- ii. PSO to Minister for Agriculture.
- iii. PO to Secretary Agriculture.



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Annex-A

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE 8TH MEETING OF AGRICULTURE COMMISSION HELD ON 17.07.2017 UNDER THE
CHAIRMANSHIP OF MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, PUNJAB AT AGRICULTURE HOUSE, DAVIS ROAD, LAHORE**

1. Mr. Ahmed Naeem Bhaba, Minister for Agriculture
2. Mr. Muhammad Mahmood, Secretary Agriculture Department
3. Ms. Saira Iftakhar, MPA
4. Ms. Ayesha Gulzar, HOD PSDF
5. Ms. Rabia Sultan, Member PAC
6. Dr. Iqrar Khan, VC UAF
7. Mr. Mumtaz Khan, Farmer
8. Mr. Rana M. Zia Ul Haq, Farmer
9. Dr. Khalid Hameed, Senior Vice Chairman PCPA
10. Dr. Muhammad Javed, Director SDRU
11. Mr. Saad Akbar Khan, Executive Member PCPA
12. Mr. Khalid Mahmood, CSD LESCO
13. Mr. Tariq Usman, Manager Commercial, LESCO
14. Mr. Hussain Jahaniyan Gardezi, MPA
15. Mr. Saftaraz Ahmed Khan, Senior Vice President Kissan Board Pakistan
16. Mr. Muhammad Anwar, Chairman Pakistan Kissan Ittehad
17. Prof. Dr. Masood Rabbani, Dean UVAS
18. Ch. Hamid Malhi, Chairman Punjab Bioenergy Company
19. Mr. Usman Tahir, DS L&DD
20. Ch. Ahmad Bilal, Pakistan Kissan Ittehad
21. Haseeb Aslam Khan, SO Finance Department.