

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT**  
**PRESS RELEASE**

Islamabad, July 28<sup>th</sup> 2020: 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee on Planning, Development and Special Initiatives was held today under the Chairmanship of Mr. Junaid Akbar, MNA.

2. The meeting started with the recitation from the Holy Quran, then, the Committee decided to proceed with the agenda. The Committee unanimously confirms the minutes of its previous meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020.

3. The Committee inquired the report on previous directions/recommendations; the Deputy Commissioner Kohistan started to brief the status of previous recommendations pertaining to Dasu Dam. However, the Committee asked for provision of soft/hard copy of the brief, but the Deputy Commissioner could not reply satisfactory, therefore, the Committee showed its displeasure over non provision of the Committee in time. The Committee directed the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives to supply each brief to the Committee before 48 hours as per time of the commencing of scheduled meeting. The Committee also directed the Ministry if any person comes to attend the Committee meeting without brief or working papers his briefing will not be acceptable and the department should not grant him any kind of TA/DA etc.

4. The Committee also directed the Secretary, Committee to write a letter to the Hon. Speaker and Minister, Planning, Development and Special Initiatives that the Ministry is not seriously looking into the matters of the Standing Committee. Then, Deputy Commissioner, Mansehra started his briefing about the proposed Mansehra, Airport. He told that the funds were granted by Civil Aviation through PSDP but the work has not been started up till now. The Committee asked as to why the affectees of the proposed area of Airport are still affected without any compensation and why the funds granted by Civil Aviation has still been kept in the account of D.C, Mansehra. He informed that the account of Civil Aviation is not operative; therefore, the funds are still in the account of D.C, Mansehra. The Committee inquired that why D.C Mansehra did not attend the previous meeting of the Committee he told that he was busy to attend NAB court on that day. The Committee directed D.C, Mansehra to provide NAB notice to the Committee through Secretary (Committee), further, as section 4 has been removed; then, why the funds are still being kept in the account of D.C, Mansehra's. The Committee directed that these funds should be utilized in another project with the consultation of Hon. Members of the National Assembly of the area Committee will provide cooperation in this regard. The Committee suggested to Government of KPK to launch another project on the area acquired for Mansehra, Airport.

5. As far as, the Bill moved by Mr. Amjad Ali Khan, MNA was deferred till its next meeting on the request of Hon. Mover.

6. The Committee directed Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives; how, the PSDP funds are being allocated for different areas and also explain the criteria of allocation, if any i.e. (i) that how many new initiatives have been taken by the Ministry during the last two years to enhance the productivity and economic growth;

(ii) Higher Education Commission, Science and Technology play imported role in anynation's development; why; it is so that HEC's budget has been freezed at 29 Billion Rupees, while it was 47 Billion Rupees in 2018; (iii) DDWP's (Departmental Development Working Party) project approval limit has been enhanced up-to 2 Billion Rupees; what kind of impact it has created on efficiency of the line ministries and their project cycle. How much cost rationalization has been made during this year at DDWP level; (iv) How planning Commission/Ministry is working without having full time Chief Economist since 2018 and who is performing his role at the moment; (v) How many Members have been hired so far and what is their contribution for the development of their respective sectors; (vi) Does Minister for Planning have any 3-5 years plan to augment/enhance the capacity of the Ministry/Planning Commission; and (vii) Why the 13<sup>th</sup> Five year plan has not been roled out despite its 1<sup>st</sup> draft has been approved by the National Economic Council in May, 2018.

7. Thereafter, the Cabinet Division and Ministry of Housing and Works also briefed the Committee about their PSDP projects. However, the Committee showed its displeasure over non attendance of the meeting by Chairman, Higher Education Commission (HEC) in person. Therefore, the Committee deferred the briefing of HEC and directed Secretary, Committee to launch a privilege motion against the Chairman, HEC to the concerned quarter. The Chairman, HEC has been breaching the privilege of the Committee for the last number of meetings. He did not bother to attend the Committee meetings.

8. The Hon. MNAs/Members Syed Faiz-ul-Hassan, Mr. Muhammad Ibrahim Khan, Ms. Shandana Gulzar Khan, Mr. Muhammad Sajjad, Mr. Ahsan Iqbal Chaudhary, Mr. Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhary, Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja and Syed Agha Rafiullah besides the senior officers from the Ministry with their staff were attended the meeting.



(Malik Moazzam Ali Kalru)  
D.S/Secretary Committee

✓ Director General (IT)  
Director (Media)