



GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN  
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY AND RESEARCH

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From

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Economic Consultant

To

- 1- Federal Minister, PC, Islamabad
- 2- Secretary Finance, MOF, Islamabad
- 3- Consultant (Agriculture & Food Security), PC, Islamabad
- 4- JS Expenditure(Law/HRs/PAs/ECP/NAB), MOF, Islamabad
- 5- DS EXP (Religious Affair/NFSR/BOI, MOF, Islamabad
- 6- Coordinator to PM (Agri & Food Security), PMO, Islamabad
- 7- Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab, Lahore
- 8- Chief Secretary, Government of Sindh, Karachi
- 9- Chief Secretary, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Peshawar
- 10- Chief Secretary, Government of Balochistan, Quetta
- 11- Chief Secretary, Government of GB,
- 12- Chief Secretary, Government of AJK,
- 13- Secretary Agriculture, Department of Agriculture Punjab,
- 14- Secretary Agriculture Sindh, Government of Sindh,
- 15- Director General, Land Information Management System LIMS,
- 16- Director General, SUPARCO,
- 17- Knowledge Management Specialist, MONFSR, Islamabad
- 18- Communication Specialist, MONFSR, Islamabad

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE 2ND MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE TO ASSESS THE IMPACT OF RECENT FLOODS ON AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION AND FOOD SECURITY**

The second meeting of the Committee constituted by Honorable Prime Minister to assess the impact of recent floods on agricultural production and food security was held on Thursday, 1st January 2026, in the Committee Room, Ministry of National Food Security & Research (MNFS&R), Islamabad. The meeting was chaired by the Federal Minister for National Food Security & Research and attended by the officials of M/o Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, representatives from the Ministry of Finance, the Coordinator to the Prime Minister, LIMS, and Provincial Agriculture Departments. Attendance sheet is placed at [Annex-I](#) .

The Economic Consultant, MNFS&R, briefed the participants on the assessment of the impact of recent floods on agricultural production and food security. The presentation covered the agreed Terms of Reference (TORs), focusing on crop damage, livestock losses, price trends, food availability, exports, and infrastructure damages.

It was informed that crop damage assessments were conducted using data from NDMA and PDNAs provincial sources, covering losses in quantities and gross value. The cultivated area of major Kharif crops (2025–26) as of 30 August 2025 was presented in tabular form. Analysis

of pre-and post-flood price trends showed a temporary price shock in perishable commodities (potatoes, onions, tomatoes) due to supply bottlenecks and border closures, which later normalized. whereas increase in the price of tomatoes is also from the seasonality effect.

The Committee was apprised of the status of vegetable imports from Afghanistan and Iran, along with availability and price trends. Livestock losses, measured in terms of heads lost, were also highlighted. A comparative analysis of food exports revealed a sharp decline, however, it was noted that this reduction could not be attributed solely to floods it has many other factors. For instance, in the case of rice, export volumes were exceptionally high last year due to India's ban on rice exports, which created a temporary market opportunity for Pakistan. With India's re-entry into the international market, accompanied by aggressive price undercutting and dumping at lower rates, Pakistan's rice exports have faced significant pressure. Similarly, while export volumes of certain commodities such as tobacco and spices have shown an increase, the country has been unable to secure favorable prices in international markets, thereby limiting export earnings despite higher quantities.

Coordinator to PM contributed a set of policy, institutional, and long term measures to mitigate the impact of floods on agriculture and strengthen food security in the presentation. The Committee recommended introducing crop and livestock insurance with partial government premium support and facilitating concessional/zero markup financing for replanting in flood affected areas. It was emphasized to promote private sector storage infrastructure (silos and cold chains) with appropriate legal and regulatory support.

The Committee recommended liberalization of agricultural trade, including deregulation of wheat and sugarcane, to improve efficiency and long-term food system stability, despite short-term price pressures.

To enhance resilience, adoption of flood tolerant crop varieties, raised-bed farming, and flood risk based crop zoning was recommended, along with strengthening drainage and water infrastructure, particularly in Sindh and South Punjab. Officials from the Planning and Development Division suggested initiating collaboration with the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) to introduce improved genetic traits into domestic rice varieties. This initiative aims to enhance yield, quality, and international competitiveness of Pakistan's rice sector. The Chair and officials from the Ministry of Finance appreciated the recommendation and emphasized the need for expeditious action, requesting that necessary steps be taken at the earliest to operationalize this collaboration.

The Committee also recommended climate-smart and nature-based solutions, establishment of integrated flood early warning and advisory systems, protection measures for livestock and fisheries, flood-proofing of food stocks and supply chains, and strengthening institutional coordination and integration of agriculture into NFPP-IV, including mobilization of climate finance.

The Agriculture Department, Government of Sindh, highlighted that the financial loss figures presented differed from their assessed actual losses. In view of this, the Ministry of National Food Security & Research (MNFSR) requested the Government of Sindh, as well as all other provinces, to share their revised and validated loss figures at the earliest, to enable accurate incorporation into the final report.

The representative from the Food Safety and Consumer Production Department, Punjab, informed the forum that approximately 1,800 MT of wheat was damaged due to flooding at a storage unit in Khanewal. In response, Punjab has plotted the flood limits of the five rivers on its dashboard to monitor the proximity of rising water levels to storage facilities. This mechanism enables advance

decision-making for the timely lifting and relocation of wheat and other stored commodities from vulnerable storage units. Punjab has implemented this measure in line with the given directions.

The Secretary, Agriculture Department, Punjab, informed the forum that a comprehensive post-flood survey was conducted to assess and quantify the exact losses incurred due to flooding. It was stated that the updated and validated loss figures would be shared with the Ministry of National Food Security & Research (MNFSR) in due course.

The Secretary further emphasized that, to enhance agricultural exports, a coordinated action plan between the Provincial and Federal Governments is required. He also stressed the importance of proactive planning and preventive measures to mitigate the impacts of anticipated floods in the coming years. Additionally, concerns were raised regarding the export of citrus and potatoes, particularly due to disruptions caused by the closure of borders.

Economic Consultant, informed the forum that the European Union imports potatoes worth approximately USD 4.1 billion annually. It was further stated that a dossier has been shared with the relevant authorities to obtain the EU's import requirements and compliance standards, with the objective of enabling Pakistan to access this market. He also highlighted that Sri Lanka meets nearly 65% of its potato requirements through imports, and Pakistan is among the exporting countries supplying potatoes to Sri Lanka.

The Ministry of National Food Security & Research (MNFSR) once again requested all provinces to share their updated and validated loss figures at the earliest, preferably by tomorrow, to facilitate timely submission of the report.

Shanza Ilyas  
Statistical Assistant  
06 April, 2026, 03:49:00 PM



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