

SENATE OF PAKISTAN



HOUSE OF THE FEDERATION

Report No. 2 of 2019

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY ON "THE BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS AND
UTILIZATION FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2018-19 AND PSDP
PROPOSALS FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2019-20"

PRESENTED BY
SENATOR MUSHTAQ AHMED
CHAIRMAN (COMMITTEE)

SENATE SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ON "THE BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS AND UTILIZATION FOR FY 2018-19 AND PSDP PROPOSALS FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR FY 2019-20"

1, Senator Mushtaq Ahmed, Chairman Standing Committee on Science and Technology, have the honor to submit, on behalf of the Committee, this report on the budgetary allocations and utilization for FY 2018-19 and PSDP proposals for Ministry of Science and Technology for FY 2019-20, in terms of proviso to Rule 166(4) and Rule 166(7) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012.

2. The composition of the Committee is as under:-

1.	Senator Mushtaq Ahmed	Chairman
2.	Senator Muhammad Azam Khan Swati	Member
3.	Senator Gul Bashra	Member
4.	Senator Nuzhat Sadiq	Member
5.	Senator Syed Muhammad Sabir Shah	Member
6.	Senator Gianchand	Member
7.	Senator Sassui Palijo	Member
8.	Senator Dr. Sikandar Mandhro	Member
9.	Senator Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti	Member
10.	Senator Kamran Michael	Member
11.	Senator Hilal-ur-Rehman	Member
12.	Minister Incharge for Science and Technology Member	Ex-Officio

3. The Committee reviewed/scrutinized budgetary and PSDP allocations and proposals for FYs 2018-19 and 2019-20 in its meeting held on 14th March, 2019, which was attended by the following:-

1.	Senator Mushtaq Ahmed	Chairman
2.	Senator Gul Bashra	Member
3.	Senator Syed Muhammad Sabir Shah	Member
4.	Senator Nuzhat Sadiq	Member
5.	Senator Dr. Sikandar Mandhro	Member

4. The Committee was briefed that for the financial year 2018-19, Rs.1.487 billion development budget was approved against demand of Rs.3.9 billion which, was too less. Moreover, out of allocated Rs.1.487 billion, only Rs.0.506 billion had been released in first two quarters, while the third quarter was about to end and no release had been made for it. The Committee also noted that in FY 2017-18, only Rs.0.843 billion had been released against allocation of Rs.2.538 billion, which shows that release of funds to MoST has been historically very poor. The Committee was shocked to witness such alarmingly low figures, and noted with grave concern that out of Rs.6,000 billion national budget for FY 2018-19, only one and half billion has been allocated for the Science and Technology and even that is not released completely. Chairman Committee held the view that S&T is the engine of long term development and prosperity and yet it is neglected, while short term eye-catching construction projects such as flyovers, roads, metro buses are focused with outlays of hundreds of billions rupees. He also noted that only the annual losses of State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) were in the range of Rs.1500 billion. The Committee unanimously recommended that Planning Commission and Finance Division shall not only ensure allocation of funds to MoST and its organizations as per their demands but also timely release of funds for their proper utilization and completion of projects without any hindrances, delays and cost escalations.

5. On PSDP proposals for FY 2019-20, it was briefed that Rs.3.6 billion is the total PSDP demand of MoST for a total of 49 projects, out of which Rs.1.206 billion is for 19 ongoing and Rs.2.394 billion for 30 new schemes. If this allocation is made, needs of all projects will be fulfilled. It was also informed that Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform (M/o PD&R) has given preliminary indication of Rs.3.079 billion for total 33 projects. Number and allocation of ongoing projects has been kept as demanded but the number and allocation for new projects has been slashed to 14 and Rs.1.873 billion, respectively. It was explained that M/o PD&R has desired to avoid projects having brick and

mortar component in view of financial constraints. The Committee gave its assent for the requisitioned PSDP allocation and strongly recommended that MoST should be allocated demanded development budget for the financial year 2019-20.



(Haris Rehman)

D.S / Secretary Committee



(Senator Mushtaq Ahmed)

Chairman Committee

Islamabad,
The 24th March, 2019