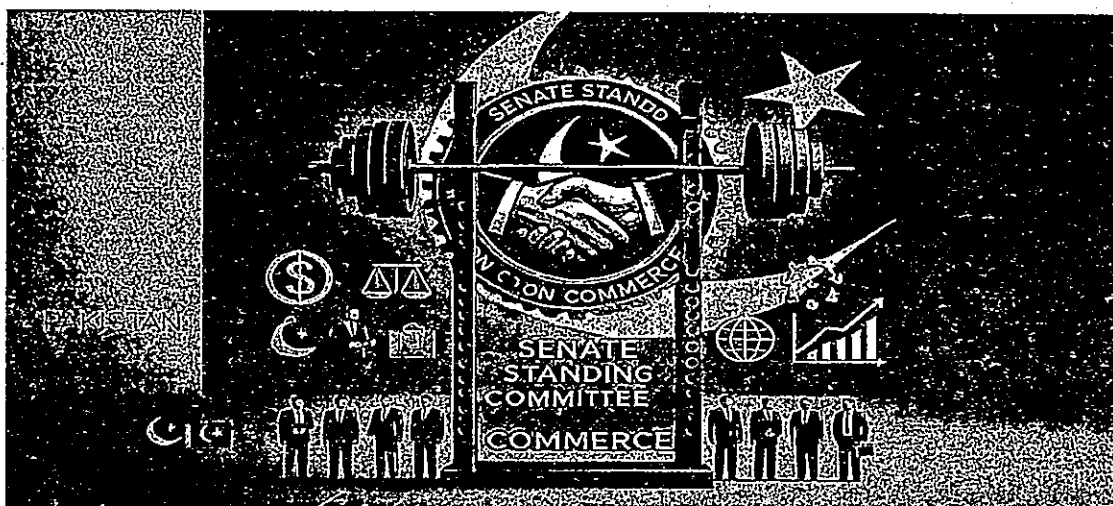


SENATE OF PAKISTAN



REPORT NO. 05



REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE OF
COMMERCE ON

*"BUDGETARY PROPOSALS RELATING TO PUBLIC SECTOR DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM (PSDP) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2026-27"*

PRESENTED BY

Senator Anusha Rahman
Chairperson
Senate Standing Committee on Commerce

SENATE SECRETARIAT

Subject:- REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE.

I, Senator, Anusha Rahman, Chairperson Standing Committee on Commerce, have the honour to present this report on budgetary proposals relating to Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) for the FY 2026-27 in terms of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012.

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

i.	Senator Anusha Rahman	Chairperson
ii.	Senator Sarmad Ali	Member
iii.	Senator Faisal Saleem Rahman	Member
iv.	Senator Bilal Ahmed Khan	Member
v.	Senator Hamid Khan	Member
vi.	Senator Amir Waliuddin Chishti	Member
vii.	Senator Saleem Mandviwalla	Member
viii.	Senator Ahmed Khan	Member
ix.	Senator Zeeshan Khanzada	Member
x.	Senator Muhammad Tallal Badar	Member
xi.	Senator Rahat Jamali	Member
xii.	Senator Muhammad Talha Mehmood	Member
xiii.	Senator Mirza Muhammad Afridi	Member
xiv.	Senator Rana Sana Ullah Khan	Member
xv.	Minister for Commerce	Ex-officio Member

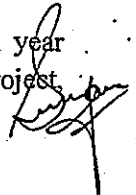
3. The Committee considered the agenda in its three sittings held on 16th March, 2026 (virtually), 25th March, 2026 (in-person), and 30th March, 2026 (in-person), under my Chairpersonship, with the following in attendance:-

1.	Senator Anusha Rahman	Chairperson
2.	Senator Amir Waliuddin Chishti	Member
3.	Senator Bilal Ahmad Khan	Member
4.	Senator Sarmad Ali	Member
5.	Senator Saleem Mandviwalla	Member
6.	Senator Rahat Jamali	Member
7.	Senator Faisal Saleem Rahman	Member
8.	Minister for Commerce	Ex-officio Member

4. The representatives from Quetta Chamber of Commerce (QCCI) also attended the meeting virtually. The Secretary Commerce briefed on the budgetary proposals of the Ministry of Commerce related to Public Sector Development Programs (PSDPs) for the F.Y 2026-27. He informed that the Ministry's development portfolio includes following two key projects:

- i. Expo Centre Quetta (approved at a cost of Rs.2,500 million, has been revised to Rs.4,829.76 million, with a proposed allocation of Rs.3,000 million for FY 2026-27)
- ii. Export Accelerator for SMEs (approved at a cost of Rs.3,000 million, has a proposed demand of Rs.1,000 million for the upcoming financial year)

5. The Committee was further apprised that during the current financial year (2025-26), a PSDP allocation of Rs.50 million was made for the Expo Centre Quetta project.



out of which Rs.17.5 million has been released so far, while no allocation or release was made for the Export Accelerator for SMEs project.

Expo Centre Quetta Project:

6. The Committee was briefed on the status, planning, and key issues of the Expo Center, Quetta project. Senators from Balochistan and representatives of the QCCI raised serious concerns regarding the suitability, security, accessibility, and distance of the proposed site from Quetta Airport, highlighting potential implications for sustainability and effective utilization of the facility. The Honorable Chief Minister of Balochistan, while addressing these concerns, categorically stated that Quetta is a secure and stable city and that the proposed site, being located near an operational industrial zone, is commercially viable and has already been cleared from a security perspective by the relevant Planning Commission forum. Emphasizing the need to avoid further delays, he maintained that the project should proceed at the existing site. However, to address accessibility concerns, he assured that the Government of Balochistan would establish an additional Expo Center near Quetta Airport through a consultative process involving all stakeholders, including QCCI. Later, the Committee approved the project at the existing site, in view of the delays already incurred and the assurances provided by the Government of Balochistan regarding security and viability.

Export Accelerator for SMEs:

7. The Committee was briefed on the proposed PSDP project titled "Export Accelerator for SMEs," with a total cost of Rs. 3,000 million and a proposed allocation of Rs. 1,000 million for FY 2026-27. The project aims to enhance SME exports by addressing challenges related to market access, compliance, and branding. It was noted that, despite approval by CDWP, no allocation was made in PSDP 2025-26 and no progress has been achieved to date. The Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, informed that the project was initiated on the direction of the Minister for Planning and Special Initiatives.

8. The Committee observed that export development initiatives should primarily be financed through the Export Development Fund (EDF). It was further apprised that the project is scheduled to be placed before the forthcoming meeting of the EDF Board.

9. The Committee recommended that the project be placed before the EDF Board for consideration and that PSDP financing may only be pursued in case of non-approval by the EDF Board. The Committee further directed the Secretary Commerce to communicate the outcome of the EDF Board's consideration to the Committee.

Budgetary allocations of Ministry and attached bodies:

10. The Secretary, Ministry of Commerce informed the Committee about the budgetary allocation for the Ministry of Commerce (Main Secretariat) and its attached departments which are detailed as below:

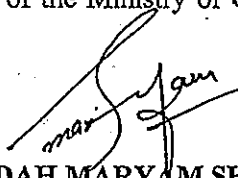
Organization	Rs. In Millions		
	Budget Grant 2025-26 (Total)	Demand 2026-27 (Total)	% Increase (Total)
Ministry of Commerce (Main Secretariat)	1,562	1,707	9%
Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP)	2,600	9,951.5	283%

Pakistan Institute of Trade and Development (PITAD)	167	248	48%
Directorate General of Trade Organization (DGTO)	119	142	20%
Trade Dispute Resolution Organization (TDRO)	73	417.5	472%
National Tariff Commission (NTC)	520	914	76%
Export Development Fund (EDF)	—	20,000	—
Duty Drawback on Local Taxes and Levies (DLTL)	15,000	7,801	(48%)
Technology Upgradation Fund (TUEF)	4,357	—	—
Trade Missions Abroad	6,678	7,427	11%

11. The Committee was briefed on the Ministry of Commerce's budget, highlighting a significant increase in allocation for TDAP from Rs. 2,600 million in FY 2025-26 to Rs. 9,951.5 million in FY 2026-27, mainly due to a rise in Non-ERE expenditures. It was informed that TDAP's expos and related activities, previously funded through EDF, are now proposed to be financed through federal budgetary allocations.

12. The Committee unanimously recommended that EDF should continue to fund TDAP's expo programs for the upcoming financial year. It further directed the Secretary Commerce and TDAP to present a rationalized Annual Business Plan before the TDAP Board by April 2026 and subsequently before the EDF Board by May 2026 for approval. The Committee observed that events not approved by the EDF Board may be considered less viable; however, in exceptional cases, limited budgetary support may be provided upon strong justification by the TDAP Board.

13. Subject to para 9 & 12, the Committee endorsed the budgetary proposals related to PSDP of the Ministry of Commerce and its attached departments for the Financial Year 2025-26.



(SAYYIDAH MARYAM SHAHEEN)
D.D/Secretary Committee



(SENATOR ANUSHA RAHMAN)
Chairperson Standing Committee on Commerce