

**Government of Pakistan**  
**Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Cooperatives**

**RESOLUTION**

Islamabad, the 10th March, 1981

No.F.2-5/80-Cord.II. The Government of Pakistan have decided to constitute an Agricultural Prices Commission with the following composition, terms of reference, and other particulars:

**Composition**

2. The Agricultural Prices Commission will consist of a whole-time Chairman and two whole-time members. The Chairman will be a distinguished economist with extensive background of agricultural planning and economic analysis. The other two members will be selected out of distinguished agricultural scientists, planners and economist. The terms and conditions of their appointment shall be decided by the Government on the basis of the qualifications and experience of the individuals concerned.

**Terms of Reference**

3. The Commission will have the following terms of reference:
- i) To advise on the price policy of wheat, rice, maize, cotton, sugarcane, oilseeds, potatoes, onions and such other commodities as the Government may specify from time to time.
  - ii) To advise on the issue price to farmers of fertilizers, pesticides, quality seeds and such other inputs as the Government may specify from time to time, keeping in view, among other things, the need to phase out subsidies on agricultural inputs.

Continued P/2



- iii) While recommending the price policy and the relative price structure, the Commission will take into account the cost of production of various crops in different ecological zones and keep in view the following:
- (a) the need to provide incentives to the producers to raise productivity and production by adopting improved technology, avoiding waste in the use of inputs, and developing production and cropping patterns broadly in keeping with the national requirements and the potential of our national factor endowments, keeping in mind at the same time the requirement that a part of the increase in the cost of production will be offset by an increase in the yield.
  - (b) the need to ensure rational utilization of land, water and other production resources.
  - (c) the impact of the price policy on other sectors of the national economy, particularly on the cost of living, wage levels, industrial cost structure, competitiveness of our agriculture based exports etc.
  - (d) the need to give special emphasis on encouraging the small farmers to expand their production and productivity.
- iv) To suggest such non-price measures as would facilitate achievement of the objectives set out above.
- v) To advise on measures to reduce cost of marketing of inputs and products and to recommend fair margins for different stages of the marketing chains for inputs and products.
- vi) To advise on any problems relating to agriculture prices and production which may be referred to it by the Government.
- vii) To advise the Government on the measures to make the price policy effective by removing deficiencies and inefficiencies of marketing, processing, storage, handling and transportation of agricultural commodities.



- viii) To promote, carry out and review:
- (a) studies relating to price policy.
  - (b) efforts for collecting and analysis of information (farm surveys) on agricultural activities.

#### Staff

4. The Commission will have a complement of technical staff consisting, inter alia, of agricultural economists, agronomists, and statisticians and the necessary secretariat personnel. The quantum of this staff will be determined by the Government in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission. This staff will be appointed by the Commission on such terms and conditions as may be approved by the Government.

#### Data Collection and Studies

5. The Commission will be free to call for notes, memoranda, results of studies, data and any other material, relevant to its work, from official and non-official bodies and hold discussions with them. The Commission may contract out any special studies required by it to other institutions, including Universities and even private consulting firms but it shall make the maximum use of the existing facilities in the Food and Agriculture Division and the Agricultural Research Division for such basic studies of a continuing nature as cannot be handled by its own staff, provided the cost of such special studies is met from within the funds/budget allocated to the Commission.

Sd/-A SAMI QURESHI  
Secretary