

PAKISTAN TRANSPORT PLAN

Pakistan Transport Plan Study (PTPS) undertaken by the Japanese Chief National Transport Research Centre.

They said that after scrutinising various policies and strategies, the experts Pakistan Transport Plan Study (PTPS) have established a long term development goal to accomplish safe and sustainable transportation system and network with proper level of services, enough to support peoples' economic and social activities and aspirations.

The plan envisages three policies (a) transport system to support economic and social activities, (b) transport network to support balanced growth of regional economy and (c) transport system to realise optimum model share.

It stipulates seven strategies (a) development of financially realisable master plan, (b) transport prioritisation, (c) pursuit of safety, (d) inter-model facilities development (e) cross border facilities development (f) institutional capacity enhancement and (g) environmental consideration.

They said "assuming that the Pakistani economy grows following the medium growth scenario that is at 7 percent per annum until 2010 and 5-6 percent in 2011 to 2025, the cumulative GDP will reach 4,255 billion dollar in the coming 20 years.

However, an appropriate amount of investment in the transportation sector will largely depend on the infrastructure stock and the demand/supply gap in Pakistan, about 0.9 percent of GDP has been invested in the transportation sector and the master plan aims at 1.5 percent of GDP during 2006 to 2010.

They said that as the stock of transportation infrastructure is rather a low level the PTPS recommends to set the target ratio of 2 percent or 85 billion dollar both for public and private sectors.

The transport experts have stressed the need for institutional reforms since formulation and implementation of development programmes and projects in transport sector is highly compartmentalised in Pakistan. "There is no institutional mechanism that facilitates the co-ordination and co-operation among the federal ministries, provincial governments and autonomous authorities for the transport sector, " they pointed out.