

## TOWARDS A RETURN OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY? ARTNeT SYMPOSIUM 25-26 JULY 2011 ESCAP, BANGKOK

#### The Case of Pakistan

### **Experiments with industrial policy**

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## Brief history of industrial policy in Pakistan

## A brief history of industrial policy

- Pakistan's policies were either formulated in response to a crisis
- Industrial policy has been specific to how each government viewed different productive sectors (sector-picking)
- Pakistan has experienced 5 waves of significant industrial policy changes (next slide)

	Wave 1 Pre-1955	Wave 2 (1955-70)	Wave 3 (1971-73)	Wave 4 (1989-99)	Wave 5 (1999-08)
Based on	Indian trade embargo after partition	Second (1960-65) and third (1965-70) 5 year plans	Nationaliz ation	Privatization	<ul><li>Privatization, deregulation</li><li>Macro stabilization</li></ul>
Policy focus	Consumpti on goods	Industrial licensing policies (e.g. sugar, textiles, cement) and development finance co's.	Public sector corporatio ns	<ul><li>Deletion</li><li>Deregulation</li></ul>	<ul><li>Automobile</li><li>Consumer electronics</li></ul>
Outcome	Protection from external competition	Spinning mills below optimal capacity and the start of distortion in textiles	<ul> <li>deep rooted distortions</li> <li>projects were chosen on political grounds</li> </ul>	No competitive practices thus privatization did not improve industrial activity	<ul> <li>Reversal of trade</li> <li>liberalization post 2008</li> <li>Inadequate consumer protection and competition</li> </ul>

### **Conclusions drawn from history**

- Past policies suffered 3 major weaknesses:
  - (1) Lead role of the govt. even during times which stressed upon privatization and trade openness
  - (2) They did not focus on raising productivity (in agri or industry)
  - (3) The structure and incentives of the governing institutions were distortive; corruption increased
- Brecher and Abbas (1972): Import substitution did not cause high industrial growth, it was due to poor initial conditions after independence
  - (i) growth in manufacturing due to excess unutilized capacity
  - (ii) agricultural growth due to favourable weather conditions and not productivity growth
  - (iii) Investment expanded, however productivity growth was stagnant

# Industry, trade and growth – Pakistan's experience

### stry, Trade and Growth

ısleh-ud-Din (2006) find no strong relationship lic investment and long-run economic growth in

tagnating investment rates have been associated t changes of political regimes and balance of latility (Naseem 2008)

nd Klinger (2008) show that most factors P growth are institutional or policy-based in



seen phases of import substitution, export nd now back towards protectionism (PC Growth