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ILLITERACY FROM PAKISTAN

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NCHO NEWS BULLETIN May 2013











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SUCCESS STORY

Dashti Ward is a village in Pishukan town of Gwadar in Balochistan. There was no primary school in that area and children were deprived of basic education.

The community of Dashti Ward presented a resolution to Education Department of Gwadar demanding a primary school to be established in their village. When NCHD staff heard their problem, they held a meeting with Director Education and Divisional Program Managers Education to solve this issue.

Gwadar community provided the land for the Feeder School and all the studying material for children whereas NCHD decided to establish a Community Feeder School (CFS) and provided them with a Feeder Teacher.

Now twenty five children of village Dashti Ward who were previously deprived of basic education are enrolled in the Community Feeder School (CFS) and are being enlightened with primary level education.





Learn at CFS Gwadar, Baluchistan





DIRECTOR GENERAL'S MESSAGE

My Dear Readers,

Welcome to NCHD's News Bulletin of May 2013. Besides our regular Universal Primary Education and Adult Literacy Program this month our main focus was on rationalizing Community Feeder Schools (CFS) and Feeder Teachers. All the Provincial Heads completed the Rationalization Exercise in all the districts with the help of their staff members.

It was followed by scooping study by the Head Office Team. I must appreciate the hard work put in by NCHD staff members who took part in this exercise.

There are many other challenges in converting the strategy into reality, however, I am sure with the assistance of the Commission members of NCHD, PHDF and the Federal/Provincial Governments we will continue to provide support to all the Provincial and District Education Departments for achieving EFA goals and accelerated Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Pakistan.

Khusro Pervaiz Khan DG, NCHD

After our massive Enrollment Campaigns and training sessions in April 2013 our focus was directed towards the validation of Feeder Teachers and Feeder Schools established by the National Commission for Human Development all over the country.

MEETING CALLED BY DIRECTOR GENERAL IN CONNECTION WITH VALIDATION EXERCISE

A meeting was held on May 7-8 2013 by the DG NCHD at Head office, Islamabad. All the Directors, Program Coordinators of Education (PCEs), NCHD's head office staff of Universal Primary Education and Literacy Department, Information Technology (IT) Department and Media Department attended the meeting.

DG instructed all the heads of the provinces to visit all the schools under their supervision/operation to make sure all NCHD Feeder Schools (FS) and Feeder Teachers (FT) are working up to the notch. He gave them two weeks notice to personally visit Feeder Schools for proper validation by May 25th, 2013.

He also mentioned the design flaws and other shortcomings lacking in our education program were discussed threadbare. The DG discussed the ways to rectify, implement and validate the whole teaching system with NCHD's Program Heads.



DG, NCHD Mr. Khusro Pervaiz addressing the Dept. Heads



Discussions on field related issues

1



VALIDATION EXERCISE IN ALL FEEDER SCHOOLS

The validation exercise was undertaken to find out the factual situation of Feeder Schools functioning on ground. The exercise was conducted with total commitment and professional honesty in all the provinces/districts. The aim of the validation was to ensure that all the feeder schools were functional as per NCHD design. The validation exercise of Community Feeder Schools (CFS) and Reopened Schools (ROS) was done with the view to highlight the non-functional and non-feasible locations and teachers.

Punjab: NCHD Punjab started validation of the Feeder Schools with renewed energies to set NCHD education plan in the right direction. 100% validation of 1936 Feeder Schools in Punjab was done across the board in record breaking time of 16 days, through meticulous and well laid out plan with total commitment by district teams under PO Punjab. Results were astonishing as almost 232 schools were found non-feasible and 40 were found non-functional through validation.





Validation process in Punjab





Validation process in Sindh

Sindh: Validation activities started in Sindh Province as well. A Coordination meeting was organized in two clusters at Matiari and Nausharo Feroze regarding importance and sensitization to staff, in which all Districts's DPMEs and DGMs participated along with provincial office (PO) officials. PO team shared the operation plan and formats along with guidelines. Field staff training was organized on 17th May 2013 at district level regarding Feeder Teacher validation tools and on the same day the UPE staff started verifying Feeder Teachers in Community Feeder Schools and Reopened Schools. PO officials also visited the location and monitored the Feeder Schools and Feeder Teacher's validation activities and reported this information to the HO. MCs, DPMEs and DGMs visited 3572 out of 3582 locations.

KPK: Instructions regarding the completion of the validation formats were given by PO KPK to the DGMs & DPMEs and they were asked that each CFS and RO Schools data should be collected 100% on the prescribed formats. After the collection of the data DPME would verify the data while DGM would verify data pertaining to 20 schools. Total 80 CFS and 40 RO Schools in the province were validated during the exercise. According to the reports there were no ghost schools found in the province. The provincial office Peshawar has sent the Validation Reports of all CFS & RO Schools to the Head office for analysis.





Validation process in KPK



Validation process in Baluchistan

Baluchistan: The main focus was on validation process of Feeder Schools and Feeder Teachers. Recording, reporting and compilation of reports were done at district and provincial level. As per HO instruction, the entire UPE Staff and DGMs were involved in the validation process and DPMs and MCs validated 100% Feeder Schools whereas GMs validated 20% of Feeder Schools in their respective areas.

Enrollment data was taken from all Feeder Schools since there inception. Formats were provided to districts by the HO for data entry and validation of Feeder Teachers. The software called Data Entry for Validation Exercise installed in all the districts offices of NCHD and data was entered in the software at district and provincial level. It is Feeder Teacher Services Feasibility Assessment Exercise. The exercise of validation was accomplished and a summary was sent to HO. Attendance Registers have been placed in Feeder Schools of all districts in Baluchistan. Prior to that there was no proper mechanism for reporting and recording at Feeder Schools.







VALIDATION EXERCISE BY DG/HO STAFF

After the validation exercise was done by the Provincial team, the Head Office team re-validated the schools. Twenty five staff members from Head Office were deputed to visit Punjab province for this exercise. They re-validated the schools which were already validated by the provincial teams. The total feeder schools validated by HO were one hundred and ninety four.

During the ongoing validation exercise, the visit by DG NCHD Mr. Khusro Pervaiz to Community Feeder Schools at Sheikhupura instilled a new spirit and motivation in the Punjab Field Team. He visited CFS Madina Colony and CFS Shehzad Town. It was an interactive session with the students and he took assessments in a very friendly manner. He asked different questions from the syllabus and tried giving confidence to the students and motivated them to learn. The DG spent over two hours in each school with the kids, who were delighted with the passionate and cheerful interaction with them.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE FESTIVAL

A two-day Children's Literature Festival (CLF) was held on May 24th and May 25th 2013. The event was organised by Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi (ITA) and Oxford University Press (OUP) in collaboration with the Foundation Open Society Institute (FOSI) Pakistan at the Pak-China Friendship Centre.

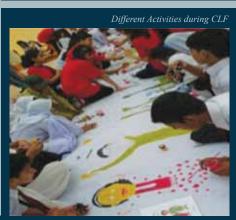
NCHD also organized a stall at the CLF. It was decorated with our literacy material obtained from our Resource Center. Volunteerism for Community Development Department handed out NCHD logo caps and badges to the kids who were visiting our stall.

The first-ever Islamabad Children's Literature Festival (CLF) proved to be a huge success with leading writers, artists, singers, general public and thousands of students from public and private schools and colleges who thronged the festival.

To inculcate the habit of reading among the youngsters, the CLF put up book fairs, creative writing and book-making sessions, besides arranging activities like live puppet shows, cartoon films, theatre and music shows. The festival featured several stimulating talks and interactive discussions on various issues like promoting the culture of reading, critical thinking among children, the use of mother tongue as a medium of instruction and active citizenship.

Thousands of children thronged the festival with their parents and remained engaged in different activities, while younger kids kept glued to storytelling and puppet shows.







3

UPDATE ON MALALA FEEDER SCHOOLS (MFS)

The Malala Feeder Schools KPK inauguration ceremony was held on 23rd May, 2013 at village Hassan Kili Charsadda.. The chief guests of the ceremony were MNA Maulana Gohar shah and MPA Fazal Shakoor Khan. Mr. Shouket Khan said in his speech that he has donated the land to the Education Department for the purpose of construction of female school in the village. He told that they had no female school not only in this village but also in the surrounding areas due to which female children not getting Education because due to social constrains parents cannot send their children to far flung areas. Further more he said that all the villagers says thanks to NCHD for the establishing a female school in the village. Director Operation shared his views regarding NCHD efforts in spreading Education and supporting elementary and secondary education department in its mandate.



Inauguration of MFS in Charsada by MNA Mr. Maulana Gohar Shah and MPA Mr. Fazal Shakoor Khan



Dir. Operation KPK Mr. Riaz Hassan addressing the at inauguration ceremony

In Punjab our model schools are being constructed in Muzaffargarh, Rajanpur and DG Khan which are in the final stages of completion. Malala Feeder School in Sindh Mir Banday Ali Talpur, Tando Ghulam Ali is situated in Badin. This School has been selected as Malala Feeder School in District Badin and NCHD is bearing cost of construction of school.





NCHD-SINDH SUPPORTING LITERACY **CENTERS IN COLLABORATION WITH ORANGI FOOD PROJECT (OFP)**

NCHD established two literacy centers in collaboration with Orangi Food Project.

NCHD helped OFP with Book 1, 2 & 3 assessment exercise, provision of adult literacy books to all the learners, technique of maintaining record.

They also assigned three LCs for monitoring, training teachers on phonic methodology of Book 1,2,3 & Math, daily planner of all reading, listening and writing techniques.

Orangi Food Project is providing teachers salary, a room for the center with desks, tables, chairs, white boards and stationery. OFP also provides milk packets and one time meal a day on daily basis to all enrolled

There are total of thirty learners enrolled in the age bracket of 6 -14 years





Orangi Food Project's Literacy Center in Karachi, Sindh

EDUCATION FOR ALL (EFA) SEMINAR IN GILGIT.

NCHD arranged a provincial level seminar in Gilgit Baltistan. The theme of the seminar "Achieve of EFA Goals". The Honorable, Speaker GB Legislative Assembly Wazir Baig graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Among other guests were Director Education & Planning GB, Director National Education Foundation (NEF), Director BISP, Head of Departments, representatives from Karakuram International University, teachers, educators, principals of schools, people from NGOs and media etc. were among the participants.

Speaking on the occasion, the Honorable Speaker said that time for achieving EFA goals is very short. GB assembly is ready to cooperate in any legislation for promoting education in GB. The speakers at the seminar explained the importance of EFA goals and highlighted the background and progress on EFA at international and national levels.

Following are the pictorial views of the seminar:







EFA seminar in Gilgit

BLOG

Handling stress is the management of taking charge of your thoughts, emotions, schedule, and the way you deal with problems. Stress management starts with identifying the sources of stress in your life.

Avoid unnecessary stress

Learn how to say "No" -know your limits and stick to them, avoid people who stress you out or limit the amount of time you spend with them, take control of your environment, avoid hot-button topics, pare down your to do list by distinguishing between "shoulds" and "musts"

Alter the situation

If you can't avoid the stressful situation try to alter it by communicating your concerns in respectful way, be willing to compromise, be more assertive, and manage your time better.

Adapt to the stressor

If you can't change the stressor, change yourself. You can adapt to stressful situations and regain your sense of control by changing your expectations and attitude. Reframe problems, look at the big picture, adjust your standards and focus on positive.

Accept the things you can't change

Some sources of stress are unavoidable. Don't try to control the uncontrollable, look for the upside, share your feelings and learn to forgive.

Make time for fun and relaxation

Set aside relaxation time, connect with others, do something you enjoy everyday and keep your sense of humor.

Adopt a healthy lifestyle

Exercise regularly, eat a healthy diet, and reduce caffeine, sugar, cigarettes and drugs.