



NCHD News Bulletin

Issue
October - December 2017

Activities and Achievements

National Commission for Human Development
Ministry of Federal Education
and Professional Training



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Chairperson NCHD Razina Alam Khan presenting annual report to Governor Sindh Mr. Muhammad Zubair Khan



DG NCHD Mrs. Samina Waqar visiting NCHD stall at Educational Career Expo, Allama Iqbal Open University



Winter Kits distributed to learners by Mr. Abid Gill, Mr. Bilal Aziz & Ms. Chiho Ohashi of JICA in Non-Formal Schools of ICT



Health & Hygiene awareness session delivered by Pakistan Red Crescent Society to Community Feeder Schools of Muzaffarabad

From Chairperson Desk

Welcome to NCHD news bulletin issue of October-December 2017. National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) has launched its literacy phase 1 of FY 2017-18 for the illiterate compatriots all over the country. Through this phase we are going to make literate 150,000 adults in 6000 adult functional literacy centers established in all the provinces and areas. Skill development is one of the main features of this phase, in order to ensure that the illiterates after achieving literacy skills could enhance their income and enable them to play an effective role in the economy of the country.

NCHD alongwith its regular programs, had organized a seminar in National Literacy Resource Center regarding paying tribute to teachers on 'World Teachers Day', 5th October. The purpose of the seminar was to raise awareness for the role of teachers they are playing, and to stress that there is a dire need for investment in their capacity building and adopting new and effective teaching approaches. In the 47th Commission meeting of NCHD, the vetting of Employees Service Regulations 2017 process was discussed in detail and the members were briefed about all the literacy programs. Provincial Consultative meetings are being held with the aim to strengthen coordination among stakeholders to identify and advocate innovative practices of NFE in every province, and setting of goals, targets and implementation mechanism keeping in view the literacy rate in respective provinces.

There is a very strong linkage between literacy and economic development. Different research and the policy directions for adult literacy, strongly emphasize the need for literacy to support economic development. Illiteracy and unemployment are important issues of Pakistan, which are also exacerbating towards other social, cultural and political issues. At this point of time it is significant that a mass campaign must be launched to address the gigantic issues of illiteracy which is pre-requisite for economic development of the country.

It is the time when we have to "ensure that now, or soon thereafter, every adult has the skills needed to perform effectively the tasks required by a high-products economy, to the best of his or her ability. Now all the stakeholders including government departments/institutions, NGOs, INGOs, donors and educationists should work out fast track initiatives to cope with the new challenges of world in education.

It is high time now, for all of us working in the field of literacy and education, to put our heads down together and hammer out a proactive and vibrant narrative/strategy for eradication of illiteracy and achieving of 90% literacy rate in the country by 2025. I pray Almighty Allah to Grant us success in all our endeavors. Ameen!

Your valuable suggestions would be appreciated.

**Senator Razina Alam Khan,
Chairperson, NCHD**

Annual Report 2016 of NCHD presented to dignitaries

Annual Report of NCHD 2016, which includes activities, achievements and innovative approaches of NCHD being practised in the remote areas of the country, was presented to different dignitaries. Chairperson NCHD held a meeting with honorable President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Mr. Mamnoon Hussain at Aiwan-i-Sadar and presented Annual Report 2016 of NCHD. Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Engineer Muhammad Baligh ur Rehman was also present at the occasion.



Chairperson NCHD presenting Annual Report to president of Pakistan

Appreciating the skill development training programme alongwith imparting education under the auspices of the Commission, the President said the initiatives would provide employment opportunities to the illiterate people by making them skilful. The Chairperson said, NCHD is aimed at human development process by enlarging choices, building capacities and encouraging participation of communities at the grass root level. To ensure this NCHD supports relevant government departments, civil society organizations and local communities in the sector of education, basic health care and income generating activities. The President directed NCHD to continue efforts for the cause of education and assured his all possible support for this noble cause.



Chairperson NCHD presenting Annual Report to Federal Minister of Education Eng. Baligh ur Rehman and Deputy Chairman Planning Mr. Sartaj Aziz

Annual Report was presented to Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Engineer Muhammad Baligh ur Rehman and Deputy Chairman to Planning Commission Mr. Sartaj Aziz, both appreciated the efforts of NCHD for improving education in the country. They also admired NCHD innovative and cost effective approaches identified to fill implementation gaps and for involving all the stakeholders working for promotion of literacy and assured their full support for the noble cause.

National Consultative Workshop on National Plan of Action

“We need to move away from 'Business as Usual Approach' and adopt proactive and vibrant initiatives to eradicate illiteracy from the country while NCHD will act as lead agency”. This was observed by the chairperson NCHD, former Senator Razina Alam Khan while presiding over the National Consultative Workshop on National Plan of Action for Literacy and Non- Formal Education (2018-2025) organized by NCHD in Islamabad on 4th Oct, 2017. The experts and representatives of provincial education and literacy departments and the senior members of National Commission for Human Development (NCHD), JICA and UNESCO attended the workshop to devise National Plan of Action for Literacy and Non-formal Education (2018-2025).

The chairperson of NCHD said that, “UNESCO has been globally working for the promotion of literacy and basic education. In the past, UNESCO has led the 'Education for All' campaign which was very effective. Now, after 2015, UNESCO has assumed the responsibility of leading Sustainable Development Goal No. 4, which relates to education. In Pakistan, UNESCO, UNICEF and JICA have been supporting basic education initiatives. UNESCO is providing financial and technical assistance for the current activity also. We acknowledge the support of UNESCO”.



Chairperson NCHD Razina Alam Khan along with DG-NCHD Samina Waqar and country representative UNESCO, Mr. Nye Nye attending the National Consultative workshop on NPA



Group photo of the NPA Team including experts of NCHD

Talking about National Plan of Action (NPA) she said, “NCHD initiated work on the development of National Plan of Action for Literacy, in the context of Pakistan Vision 2025. NCHD was directed by Planning Commission, to develop a roadmap for achieving Vision 2025 target of 90% literacy. SDG 4 also aims to bring all out of school children to school and impart literacy skills to all youth, adult men and women”. This meeting is the first step towards development of this Plan of Action, she observed. Chairperson appreciated the hard work done by National Training Institute for coordinated efforts to prepare NPA. She acknowledged and lauded support of Federal Education Minister, Engineer Baleegh Ur Rehman to NCHD and other organizations working for NFE. She thanked to minister for his support to NCHD and it's recently approved PC-1 which includes establishment of National Training Institute for Literacy and NFE as well.

As regards the National Plan of Action the workshop participants were informed that Provincial Literacy plans are to be developed by the respective provincial and area organizations while NCHD, UNESCO and JICA AQUAL will extend technical assistance. NPA will be compiled, based on the provincial, and area Literacy Plans. In this connection NTI team visited provinces and conducted provincial forum meetings including education department officials, INGOs and NGOs for the preparation of provincial drafts.



AJ& K forum meeting for drafting of NPA at Muzaffarabad



ICT forum meeting for NPA at Academy of Education Planning and Management, Islamabad

NCHD Paid Tributes to Teachers on World Teachers Day

The United Nations' (UN) World Teachers' Day commemorates the work of teachers and their contributions to society. It is observed on October 5 each year. The day is celebrated by organizing different seminars, walks and conferences to honor teachers in general or those who have made a special contribution to a particular community. The day is also marked to emphasize the importance of teachers in the development of a country.

In this connection NCHD organized a seminar on the day and paid tributes to teachers by distributing certificates among the teachers working with NCHD in Literacy and Non-formal Education programs. Chairperson NCHD was of the view that, "Weak professional base is the main cause of not succeeding in literacy campaigns of the past. To address this issue National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) has established a National Training Institute manned by hard-core professionals of Non-formal Education (NFE) and Literacy, which will cater for multi-grade pedagogical requirement of the Out of School Children (OOSC)."

She said, National Training Institute of NCHD is established with the aim to meet the training needs of literacy professionals working in the field of literacy and non-formal education, and build their capacities according to the new approaches evolving in the world with the help of other stake holders. NTI will also prepare Accelerated Learning Modules and condensed syllabus that will be the requirement of a learner, and research work will be conducted through this institute to assess and evaluate programs of NFE and Literacy.



Chairperson NCHD Razina Alam Khan, addressing to teachers on World Teachers Day at NCHD Head quarters and distributed certificates to them. DG NCHD Ms. Samina Waqar and Mr. Iqbal ur Rehman Consultant NTI are also seen in the pictures

Meeting of DG NCHD with Secretary Education Sindh

NCHD is operational in 112 districts of Pakistan; its main interventions are Adult Literacy Program and Universal Primary Education through non-formal education Program. There are 5,949 community feeder schools under UPE program all over the country. NCHD established these feeder schools in areas where there are no government primary schools with in an area of 1.5 kilometers. Earlier beside these feeder schools facilities, NCHD also provided feeder teachers to government primary schools due to scarcity of teachers having large strength. There was a third category of Re-open schools which were government primary schools closed due to non-availability of teachers or any other reason, NCHD made them functional according to the needs of community and OOSCs available in the area by providing a feeder teacher and other required facilities.



DG NCHD Ms. Samina Waqar attending coordination meetings with NCHD Provincial Offices Sindh & Balochistan

Later on it was observed that government had hired primary teachers and many primary schools were also established by the government in each province as their extension program. NCHD held coordination meeting regularly with government education departments to prevent overlapping and smooth function of its UPE program. In this connection DG NCHD Mrs. Samina waqar held coordination meeting with Secretary Education Sindh and Balochistan alongwith director operations of respective provinces and discussed UPE programs in detail. She also held meetings with Chief Secretary Sindh & Secretary Health and briefed them about NCHD programs in Sindh.

Secretary Education Sindh agreed to provide a notification regarding those feeder teachers working in government schools of Sindh and appreciated the efforts of NCHD for the noble cause. Both the secretaries also assured there support to NCHD as well.

47th Commission Meeting of NCHD

The 47th Commission Meeting of NCHD was held at its head office Islamabad on 26th October, 2017. The meeting was presided by Chairperson NCHD former Senator Razina Alam Khan and attended by Mrs. Roshan K. Bharucha (Balochistan), Ms. Saba Gul Khattak (KPK), Dr. Sono Khangrani (Sindh), Dr. Mubashir Bhatti (Punjab), representatives of Ministries of Education and Finance.

The chairperson NCHD said that, the socio-economic indicators of Pakistan as compared to many other countries of this region are encouraging, but with 22.6 million out of school children and 57 million adult illiterates, Pakistan is facing a huge challenge. The current national literacy rate i.e. 58% has to be taken to 90% and enrollment 100% by 2030 under Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), she stressed.



Chairperson NCHD Razina Alam Khan presiding over the 47th Commission Meeting of the NCHD

While talking about the challenging situation of literacy in the country she said that, low literacy rate is due to low primary education participation rate. Pakistan's overall gross enrollment rate (GER) is 97% in 2017 against only 77% adjusted net enrolment rate (ANER) in 2015-16. Male GER is 105% against 83 ANER. Whereas, female GER is 90% against 71% ANER, both GER and ANER in urban areas are considerably higher than rural areas.

She said, unfortunately we have not taken effective measures to plan and manage our limited resources in view of high population growth rate. If we want to achieve Goal 1 of Vision 2025, we need to take measures that could bring 22.6 million OOSC of 5-16 years in the school, she further said. Formal schools could not accommodate this huge number, and many of the missed and drop out children, are above the age of 10 years, who cannot be enrolled in the formal schools, she added. In such circumstances, non-formal education is the only way, which is effective, efficient and with in the budget lines too, she further added. The role of other stakeholders is equally important in this context and NCHD alone cannot make any big shift in the situation, she observed.

Visit of Chairperson NCHD to Directorate of Literacy and NFE Punjab

Chairperson NCHD Mrs. Razina Alam Khan visited NCHD Lahore Office on 8th December, 2017, where she was briefed by the Director Operations - Punjab on the programs status of Punjab.

Later on she held a meeting with the Secretary & Project Director Literacy & Non-Formal Basic Education Punjab Dr. Ismat Tahira and discussed National Plan of Action. Chairperson NCHD briefed her about NCHD intervention in the field of Literacy and NFE and also discussed about the launching of new phase of Literacy in Punjab. Dr. Ismat Tahira appreciated the efforts of NCHD and assured her full support in Punjab regarding Literacy and Plan of Action. Chairperson NCHD presented annual report of NCHD to Dr. Ismat and appreciated the exemplary progress done by the Punjab government in the field of education.



Chairperson NCHD in a meeting with Secretary Literacy and NFE Punjab Dr. Ismat Tahira on 8th December, 2017

Visit of DG NCHD to China in a Seminar on Education for Rural Development Transformation;

UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education (INRULED), Yunnan Normal University and Yunnan Agricultural University hosted an International Seminar on Education for Rural Transformation in Kunming from 18-22 December, 2017. The seminar contextualized in education 2030 and the Mekong cooperation mechanism by bringing together education policy-makers, researchers and practitioners from the five Mekong countries (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam) and Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal.



NCHD Ms. Samina Waqar addressing to the 2nd International Seminar on Education for Rural Transformation, Kunming CHINA

The basic goal of the seminar was to enhance the capacity of key stakeholders, including government officials and education practitioners, and to effectively integrate the concept of education for rural transformation and learning villages into national development planning and programming as well as local practices. The said seminar was attended by the Director General National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) and Secretary General PNCU/Joint Secretary Ministry of Federal Education & professional Training. She informed the seminar participants about contribution of NCHD in the field of Non-formal Education, Multi-grade Teaching methodology being practised and development of condensed syllabus for the dropout children.



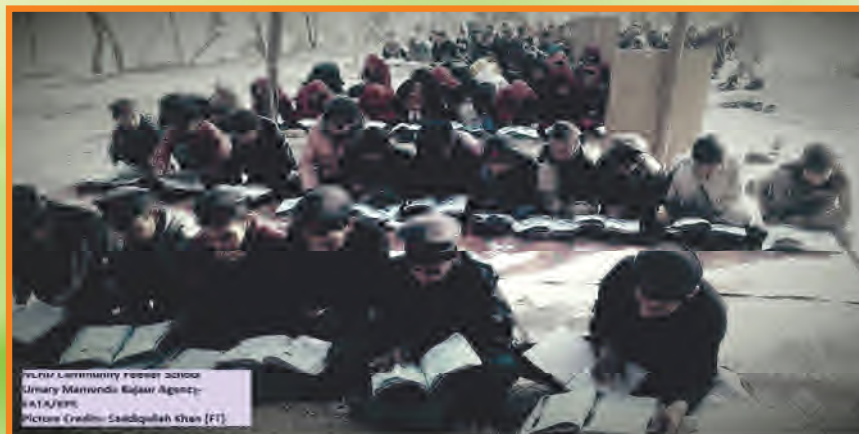
Group Photo of the 2nd International Seminar on Education for Rural Transformation, Kunming China

Success story from Bajaur Agency, FATA

NCHD established Community Feeder School (CFS) at Umary Mamondo, in Bajaur Agency, FATA in Feb, 2013 after a survey in the area which reported illiterate population and large number of out of school children (OOSCs) in the area. After social mobilization, education department Bajaur was informed about this intervention of NCHD, the school was inaugurated by high military and civil officials. Initially the school was opened in a Hujra of an influential, but with the passage of time the strength increased and it became difficult to accommodate students in the Hujra. The school was therefore, shifted outside the Hujra, in an open air.

As there is no other school in the vicinity of the village therefore, the school's strength went up to 200 learners with three Feeder Teachers. Large strength in this school despite meager resources reflects hard work of teachers, dedication of NCHD Bajaur team and participation of the community.

Community of the village is very poor, so this school is still functioning without any proper building. The influential of the community however have provided free of cost land for school building and had requested NCHD to provide/ build proper building for school. NCHD's Bajaur district team is working on resource mobilization in coordination with line departments for the construction of a proper school building for these poor children of Umary Mamondo village.



Learners of Community Feeder School (CFS) Umary Mamondo, in Bajaur Agency, FATA learning in the open air.

Inauguration of Community Feeder School Chah Bokhari Lashari, Jhang

Inauguration ceremony of Community Feeder School Chah Bokhari Lashari Tehsil 18 Hazari District Jhang was held on 07 December 2017 with coordination of SABAWON organization and district education authority. Mr. Muhammad Azam Chella MPA 18 Hazari, DGM NCHD Malik Ehsan Ullah Kamboh and officials of Education Department Jhang inaugurated this feeder school. DPME, Muhammad Ramzan, Project Manager SABAWON Hazrat Khan, Officer Schools and College Principal Naveed Iqbal and local community attended the inauguration ceremony of CFS Chah Bokhari Lashari District Jhang.



Mr. Muhammad Azam Chella MPA and Malik Ehsan Ullah Kamboh DGM NCHD inaugurating CFS Chah Bokhari Lashari

SABAWAN an NGO working in Jhang requested and reported NCHD Jhang that in the surrounding of Chah Bokhari Lashari 18, there are more than 50 out of school children, who are not enrolled due to non-availability of school facility in the location. NCHD Jhang team visited the location and verified children, the matter was discussed with Jhang Education department as well. Jhang Education department authorized NCHD to establish feeder school in the area.

As a result of resource mobilization for the school an amount of Rs.150, 000/- were collected from community for one room and boundary wall of the school. Thirty school uniforms were also provided to the enrolled children.

Inauguration Ceremony of Adult Literacy Program in Kech

After completion of social mobilization process and capacity building of teachers, opening ceremonies were held in district Kech, Balochistan at different locations of three selected clusters for literacy phase Nov-2017-April, 2018. Sixty adult literacy centers have been established in district Kech for current Phase. The first ceremony was carried out in Meri Bug on Dec 20, 2017. More than 80 participants participated from different walks of life including community, NGO and education officials.

The second ceremony took place at Kolwai Bazar Absar, more than 150 participants attended the opening ceremony of newly established adult literacy centers in their area. District GM Kech and president of LSO ABSAR UC inaugurated the event at Union Council ABSAR.

In the third ceremony, literacy Coordinator Pir Bakhsh welcomed guests and other participants. He thanked the community members for their support and facilitation in literacy program, especially during SMP and teacher training. Mr. Yousuf Jan the president of LSO Absar welcomed NCHD and also thanked the NCHD literacy team for selecting Absar U/C for literacy program and assured their support in the area. Abdul Salam (DPM-L) shared the objectives of the program and its importance.



NCHD district GM, Kech and president of LSO ABSAR U/C at the inauguration ceremony of Adult Literacy Centers



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