



REFORMERS

A Newsletter by Reform Support Unit

EDUCATION AND LITERACY DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SINDH

DEC'15-FEB'16
ISSUE (III)



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Working in and for the beloved province of Sindh requires us to embed the culture and diversity as strengths of society and the programs are to be designed while ensuring that there is recognition and respect for language, culture, self-expression, contextual creativity and diversity. This issue will provide you an opportunity to update yourself with significant developments especially releases of funds and grants and at the same time savour the colours of culture. Through this issue the department promises to reflect the cultural premises and values in the policies to come.

Faisal Ahmed Uqaili
Chief Program Manager

Dear Readers,
Welcome to the third issue of
Reformers!

As the year 2015 ended, Millennium Development Goals have also come to an end and it is sad that Pakistan failed to achieve those goals. Moving forward, we now have Sustainable Development Goals (2016-2030) to be achieved. SDG4 caters to education. Based on lesson learnt, the Government of Sindh already started working and established Sindh SDG unit. So it's time we should all gear up and play our part.

Awaiting your valuable feedback.

Faiza Shafiq
Editor



HANDICRAFTS

Hala city is famous for handi crafts, which are made up of pottery and clay

THE BIG MOVE

To a better future



In today's world the pace of change is immensely faster, and it will continue to accelerate. The prime objective of Reform Support Unit is to infuse institutional capability in Education reform and the team has been working untiringly to inculcate improvements into the system. The department observed that the working space at NJV School was not suitable to cater the increasing work loads and human resource, so RSU office shifted at Nursery, Shahrah-e-Faisal. A conducive working location and environment, allowing employees to attain motivation driving creativity, inspiration and enhancing the efficiency. The relocation was carried out through an extensive and strategic thought process as it was not easy to shift over 20 sections without disturbing their work timelines.

"Conducive environment along with proper work space has brought the complete team together and has increased our coordination and communication, bringing improvement in overall performance".

Mr. Khalid Mahar, Program Manager-SESP/EM/SSB

"Less electricity breakdowns, comfortable environment, aesthetic office space has definitely increased our performance".

Sarwat Gul Soomro, Census Specialist-SEMIS

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SUKKUR BARRAGE

Sukkur Barrage was built on Indus river during British Raj from 1923-1932, formally called Lloyed Barrage. It has 66 gates.

Sukkur District has 154,038 enrolment & 5,100 Teachers in 1,251 schools (including 36 Campus Schools)

Security Check List

In wake of attacks in Army Public School (Peshawar) and Bacha Khan University state of security in education institutions is of high concern. Its time that all education institutions whether public or private, school or college or university should keep a close check on its security. Last year, Government of Sindh issued a check list for the safety and security.

Security check list :

- Give visitors' card to outsiders, such as tuck shop workers, van drivers, book store manager
- Keep record of visitors
- Make identity card for every employee
- Raise boundary walls
- Make separate entrances and exits
- Give stickers approved by the administration
- Install closed - circuit television cameras, if possible.
- Set up security office at entrance
- Arrange Rangers/ police training for school guards on how to handle weapons
- Conduct background checks of every employee
- Introduce scout training programmes for students
- Keep school timings different in areas where there are cluster of schools in same vicinity
- Implement security measures for school vans as mentioned in May 21, 2014 notification issued by the transport Mass transit Department of Government of Sindh (http://www.sindh.gov.pk/NOTIFICATIONS/July2014/2014_07_15_12_40_11.pdf)

It is imperative that all concerned staff should ensure that such measures are taken up and are regularly followed.



Disaster Risk Reduction Committee

Disaster Risk Reduction is a framework designed to minimize the vulnerabilities and disaster risks throughout the society, to avoid or limit the adverse impacts of hazards within a broader context of sustainable development. In a preliminary meeting of Disaster Risk Reduction in December 2015 it was decided to form a committee which would deal with emergency like situations such as natural disaster and emergencies. On January 11, 2016, Education and Literacy Department constituted a committee for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) with its leadership being assigned to the Additional Secretary (Academic & Training).

The DRR working group members include Government representatives from the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA), Home Department, Health Department, Provincial Institute for Teacher Education (PITE), Bureau of Curriculum (BoC), Textbook Board, Sindh Education Sector Plan and representatives from UNICEF, Community Mobilization Program (CMP), Root Work Foundation, Aga Khan Development Network, Sindh Agricultural and Forestry Workers Coordinating Organization (SAFWCO), Pakistan FisherFolk Forum (PFF), Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) The first meeting of DRR was held on 9th February 2016 in Karachi. The main role of different organization in DRR and handling of emergencies at Tehsil and Union Council level were discussed and also to gather already developed materials as well as existing plans from all stakeholders.



Shrine of great Sufi Saint and Poet Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai (1689-1752) is located at Bhit Shah, 50 kilometres from Hyderabad.

SHAH ABDUL LATIF BHITAI'S SHRINE

Matiari District has 84,629 enrolment & 3,368 Teachers in 926 schools (including 10 Campus Schools)

The Incentive To Educate Girls

Government of Sindh is encouraging girls and promoting the Girls Education in the Province through distribution of stipends among girl students of class six to ten in the public schools. The purpose of the stipend is to relieve parents from financial burden of educating their children and provide an incentive for girls to remain in school. The Distribution of stipend through ATM card and Easy paisa for the academic year 2014-15 started in first week of February 2016 and total amount to be disbursed is approximately PKR 950 Million.

The Senior Minister for Education, Mr. Nisar Ahmad Khuhro held a Press Conference on 27 January, 2016 on Girls' stipend where he expressed that "In low transition Talukas girls from class VI-X will receive Rs. 3500/- (75000 girls) and remaining Talukas girls students will receive Rs.2500/- stipend (275,000 girls)". Last year about 344,160 girl students received their stipend. On Feb 4, 2016 Girls' Stipend Distribution ceremony was held in Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Gulshan-e-Iqbal (Karachi), where Senior Minister for Education distributed ATM cards and Easy Paisa pin mailers among the girl students. This year more than 350,000 beneficiaries will receive stipend through following processes:

i) By SMS

A pass code and transaction ID will be sent to parent or Guardian's Mobile number, through that they can receive stipend amount from any Easy Paisa retailer shop by showing her parent/guardian's original CNIC. Approximately 180,000 beneficiaries will receive their stipend through this method.

ii) ATM cards

ATM card with pin code will be distributed among the girl students at their schools. The beneficiary will receive their stipend amount from any ATM machine using ATM cards. About 70,000 beneficiaries will receive their stipend through this method.

iii) Pin Mailer

An envelope containing Pass code and transaction ID will be distributed among the students at their schools, through that beneficiary can receive stipend amount from any EasyPaisa retailer shop by showing her parent/guardian original CNIC. About 100,000 beneficiaries will receive their stipend through this method. complaint through SMS by writing ILMI and send a text message to 8398.

For any guidance and assistance, SMS ILMI 8398 (write ILMI + message text and send it to 8398)



“ I take pride in expressing that in collaboration with the education department our teams at divisional and district levels have achieved success in identifying and catering to the loop holes in Governance and efforts are being made by the district to overcome the irregularities and the progress is regularly deliberated with the stakeholders. I reckon that such sincere efforts are of remarkable value in reaching our destination which is an educated Pakistan. ”

Mr. Qazi Shahid Pervaiz
Commissioner, Hyderabad Region

Masoom Shah Jo Minaro in Sukkur was built in 18th century by Historian & Knight Masoom Shah. This Minaret has 8 narrow steps in a spiral shaped stair.

MASOOM SHAH JO MINARO

In District Sukkur 93 Primary School Teachers, 289 Junior School Teachers and 49 High School Teachers were recruited in Round III

Students Geared Up For The Standardized Achievement Test –SAT

Reform Support Unit has initiated SAT phase IV in all Districts of Sindh. The test started in February and scheduled up to mid of March 2016. IBA Sukkur is administrating the test. Prior to the SAT, Pilot testing and seminars were conducted and teachers were made aware of the process for smooth implementation of this project. SAT is conducted annually to measure the performance and learning outcomes of students of grades V and VIII in all public schools of Sindh. The students are tested for their competencies against Language, Mathematics & Science. To encourage and appreciate top 3 schools of SAT phase III, appreciation certificates were awarded. SAT is one of the effective tools for the department to measure the learning outcomes and make informed decisions for quality education.



Sindh Initiates Aligning Its Plans With Sustainable Development Goal-4

On 22nd and 23rd February 2016, the Education & Literacy Department, Government of Sindh organized a consultative session with policy makers and development partners with the aim to align its targets and policies with the Sustainable Development Goals – Agenda 2030. In these consultative sessions, spanning two days, the activities, priorities & targets as depicted in the five year “**Sindh Education Sector Plan**” were aligned with the Sustainable Development Goal-4 and its policy framework. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are new universal set of goals, targets and indicators that UN member states are expected to frame their agendas and political policies over the next 15 years. The SDG-4 caters to Education. The sessions were chaired by Mr. Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman - Minister of Federal Education and Professional Training, Mr Nisar Ahmed Khuhro - Senior Minister for Education and Dr. Fazlullah Pechuho - Secretary Education and Literacy Department.



The goal-4 of the SDGs states that:

“Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”

Mr. Rafique Tahir - Joint Secretary, Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, Ms. Alia Shahid - Special Secretary Education and Literacy Department, Dr. Fauzia Khan - Head of the Curriculum Wing, Ms. Naheed Shah Durrani - Managing Director, Sindh Education Foundation, Ms. Shehla R Din Education Specialist - UNICEF, Ms. Chris Munduate Deputy Representative – UNICEF, Ms. Vibecke Jensen-Director UNESCO and Additional Secretary MoFE & PT, Mr. Nyi Nyi Thuang - Programme Specialist at UNESCO, Mr. Nasir Amin - Incharge NEMIS, Representatives from Sindh Text Book Board, Bureau of Curriculum, Directorate of Non-Formal Education NCHD, European Union, USAID, BRAC Pakistan, AKU-IED, ITA, UNHCR & SZABIST, also attended the session. Mr. Faisal Ahmed Uqaili - Chief Program Manager, Reform Support Unit presented the challenges in Education of Sindh. He also briefed the implementation status of Sindh Education Sector Plan (SESP) and assured full cooperation in further deliberations towards the development of SDG road map for the Sindh Province. It is also pertinent to mention that the first provincial SDG-4 Consultation was conducted in Sindh as well as the SDG Unit had already been launched in Dec 2015. This unit is set up by the Planning and Development (P&D) Department in collaboration with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

“ It is of great pleasure to share my views on the efforts of the RSU in uplifting the deteriorating condition of the education in the public sector schools. The prime responsibility of the department is to provide right to equal and free education to all children, and the Girls Stipends. All these bring the major portion of population in the mainstream. The efforts of RSU are remarkable to strengthen the public sector schools by providing funds in terms of SMC, SSB & one-time grant to the campus schools through consolidation policy. I cordially extend every possible cooperation to RSU through LSU in Sukkur region to achieve its intended goals ”

Mr. Muhammad Abbas Balouch
Commissioner, Sukkur Division

Thar is the 18th largest sub- tropical desert in the world. It is largest desert of Pakistan located in the South East of Sindh.

THARPARKAR DESERT

In Standardized Achievement Test, District Tharparkar scored highest average percentage 31.57 (Language 45.35, Math 27.48 and Science 21.88 Score) in class VIII.

School Consolidation Policy - Implementation In Full Swing

One time grant amount under "School Consolidation Policy" for the establishment of 996 campus schools across the Province has been disbursed. Parallel to this resource rationalization and capacity building of teaching and administrative staff for smooth implementation of the Consolidation Policy in its true spirit is also taking place. Main purpose of School Consolidation Policy is to rationalize the schools, teachers, infrastructure and other resources with the aim to enhance the quality of education while ensuring the access to education for all communities through improved governance.

To implement the School Consolidation Policy on ground, 10 lead campus schools in 3 districts have been selected. These schools will serve as role models for other campus schools that are to be consolidated for the optimum utilization of resources.

Region Wise Summary of One Time Grant of Campus Schools		
Regions	Total Campus Schools	Total Amount (Rs. in Million)
Shaheed Benazirabad	124	145,589,758/-
Hyderabad	252	359,586,630/-
Sukkur	181	167,968,935/-
Larkana	185	303,001,100/-
Mirpurkhas	77	89,018,300/-
Karachi	177	275,548,700/-
Grand Total	996	1,340,713,423/-

10 Lead Campus Schools

Karachi

Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Gulshan Iqbal
 Government Boys High School Green Dale (Mix)
 Government Boys High School, Khuldabad, Landhi (Mix)
 Government Boys High School No 1, Nazimabad
 Government Boys Higher Secondary School (CMS), Old Haji Camp Saddar Town
 Government Boys High School, SITE, Model

Thatta

Government Boys High School, Makli
 Government Boys High School, Thatta

Jamshoro

Government Girls High School, Thano Bola Khan
 Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Sindh University Colony



Training Session on School Consolidation Policy implementation

SC Grant Utilization Heads

Office Building Repairs & Maintenance
Improving Classroom space
Improving Classroom Ventilation
Provision of Water Supply
Provision of Electrification
Provision of Boundary Wall
Repairs off Toilets
Purchase of Furniture & Fixture
Classroom Furniture (Table, Chairs, Boards)
Others
Fans
Lights/ Electric Bulbs

European Union's Support In Education Continuous

The European Union (EU) is providing support to Pakistan through a large number of development and humanitarian projects. The major part of their funding focuses on education development and vocational training, such as emphasis on better utilization of public funds, improved governance system, implementation of curriculum, development of textbooks and learning material, professional development of teachers and introduction of student learning outcome based assessment framework. Government of Sindh, Education and Literacy Department has successfully completed Sindh Education Sector Support Programme-II (SESSP-II), worth 30 million Euros which was signed between the Government of Pakistan and the European Union on the 13th February, 2012. Keeping in view the success of the recently completed program, EU is considering to continue its support for betterment of education in Sindh.

Located in Khairpur Mir's was built in 1798 as the palace of Talpur family.

FAIZ MAHAL

Khairpur Mir's District has 310,903 enrolment & 9,207 Teachers in 3,460 schools (including 130 Campus Schools)

Utilization Of School Specific Budget

To orient the Drawing and Disbursement Officers (DDOs) with regard to the utilization of the School Specific Budget (SSB) as per the notified SSB guidelines and prescribed Sindh Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (SPPRA) rules, capacity building sessions on regional as well as district level were conducted. The budget allocation of the Financial Year 2015-16 has not only been communicated to all the schools but also the 100% budget has been released for the Secondary and Higher Secondary schools. However, release of SSB funds for the primary, middle and elementary schools is in final stages at Finance Department. Education & Literacy Department has issued orders regarding restoration of DDO powers to the concerned Head Masters/ Head Mistress / Principals and the DDO cards have already been issued to ascertain the transparency and the authentication of the DDO Authority. At the District level process of issuing the NIT (Notice Inviting Tender) has also been started. The department is confident that this year government schools will be able to utilize their SSB funds for the betterment and development of schools.

Allocations FY-2015-16	Billion (Rs)
SSB for Primary Schools	2.376
SSB for Secondary Schools	2.304
Total Allocation	4.68



SSB Training Session (District Badin)

SMC Funds Released

SMC funds has been released worth 656 Million to more than 20,000 Schools in the first tranche in the current quarter. School Management Committee (SMC) plays an important role in improving the governance of the schools through community participation. For shared accountability and for the School improvement the Education & Literacy Department provides annual SMC funds on the basis of Classroom-Student Ratio to all functional and main schools. The SMC funds can be utilized under three heads: Minor repair and maintenance, cleanliness and transport for female students. All the schools have to send the application forms along with necessary documents and then funds are directly credited into SMC bank accounts, after verification by the Department. The release of the 2nd tranche of SMC funds for over 15000 Schools is in process.

Increase in Enrolment

After 18th Amendment in the Constitution and introduction of Article 25 - A, Education & Literacy Department along with RSU has made efforts to get the enrolment increased in Sindh. The first ever Sindh Education Sector Plan ensures phase wise induction of students in the schools and reduce the dropout ratios. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) No.4 also undertakes to address this issue. At federal level this initiative has also been taken to achieve 100% enrolment by 2018. Education & Literacy Department Government of Sindh will not lag behind in these efforts.

Jamia Masjid Khudabad is situated 13 kilometres south of Dadu town built by Mian Yar Muhammad Kalhoro between 1710 AD-1718 AD and became symbol of Kalhoro Dynasty.

MASJID - E - KHUDABAD

In District Dadu 446 Primary School Teachers, 105 Junior School Teachers and 44 High School Teachers recruited in Round III

Sindh Education Sector Plan(2014-2018) - Updates

Sindh Education Sector Plan (SESP) was developed in response to the Free and Compulsory Education Act passed after 18th Amendment in the Constitution of Pakistan. It is a road map to achieve the provincial, national and international commitments with regard to education interventions in the province. Since its official launch on 29 September 2014, there has been great progress with regards to roll out plan for the Sindh Education Sector Plan. District Education Plans have been completed by all 29 Districts. They have been reviewed and approved by the Education Department, the printing is in progress and formal dissemination will take place by the end of March 2016. The SESP to penetrate effectively at District level has been translated in Sindh and Urdu Languages, also a condensed version is developed and all these versions have been disseminated effectively among the relevant stakeholders and implementers at all levels.



Implementation of SESP: In order to track the progress regarding the implementation of SESP a meeting was organized with the implementing agencies in February 2016. Also a Consultant is onboard with support of the European Union especially for the progress tracking of SESP and to identify the gaps and challenges in the implementation process.

Joint Education Sector Review: The second Joint Education Sector Review is in planning phase, which will be a rigorous activity led by the Education & Literacy Department, Government of Sindh involving all the development partners and implementers. This major annual activity is expected in April 2016.

Young Scientists Of Shikarpur Exploring Science In The Intra School Exhibition

On 10th of February 2016, an Intra-School Science Exhibition was held at the Government Boys High School (GBHS) No. 2 Shikarpur. The event was organized jointly by the Local Support Unit(LSU), District Education Department and the Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi (ITA) providing an unique opportunity to the students to encourage and explore their abilities and understanding of scientific concepts. 35 Students and 7 Teachers from 7 Public Schools were provided with demos and low/no cost materials by Mr. Nadeem Ahmed Shaikh LSU Coordinator, Shikarpur.



The major objective of this activity was to increase the interest of students through involvement, encouraging teachers to use low/no cost material to create activity based learning environment and also best possible utilization of the classroom material procured from School Specific Budgets. The exhibition was organized in GBHS No.2 School which is the largest historical school of Shikarpur. Hundreds of students from the competing schools attended the exhibition. Certificates and Medals were presented by Sikandar Ali Khashk, Deputy Commissioner Shikarpur.

The way it was planned, executed and managed by Deputy District Education Officer, LSU/RSU Shikarpur and District Manager ITA is appreciable. I really feel proud to be part of this event where little kids from Government Schools showed their talent, explored and presented the logics of Science, working with great confidence and surprised everybody who came to see them here in this exhibition. I really appreciate the role of Nadeem Ahmed Shaikh, District Coordinator RSU who provided technical facilities to the students while working with them for whole month and provided ideas and ways to think like a Scientist and discover the hidden talent of the students of Public sector as a great achievement". Sikandar Ali Khashk, Deputy Commissioner Shikarpur.



S	Participating School	Science Facilitator	Projects
1	Govt. Qazi Habibullah High School	Fateh Muhammad Soomro	Bending Of Light, Dispersion Of Light
2	Govt. Boys High School Shah Latif	Gulzar Ahmed Ansari	Generation Of Waves, Laws Of Reflection
3	Govt. Boys High School No. 2	Muhammad Hassan Soomro	Surface Tension, Newton Third Law of motion
4	Govt. Boys High School Haji Fateh Mohd	Ali Nawaz Shaikh	Thermal Expansion, Expansion & Contraction
5	Govt. Boys High School Islamia	Aamir Ali Bablani	Electromagnetism, Static Electricity
6	Govt. Boys High School No. 1	Muhammad Zakiriya Moriani	Cartesian Driver, Formula Of Potential Energy
7	Govt. Boys High School City	Atta Muhammad Soomro	Making Simple Motor, Conduction Of Heat

FOLK MUSIC

There are various folk musical instruments in Sindh like Borri do, Nafeel, Chang, Nadd or Narr, Shamai, Bansri, Murli, Surando, Dambooro, Yaktaro, Gharro (Dilo), Alghozo, Banjo and Pava or Beenoon. Most of these instruments are inspired by village life and its environment.

Sindh Province has 4,044,476 enrolment & 46,039 Teachers in 144170 schools (including 1,065 Campus Schools)

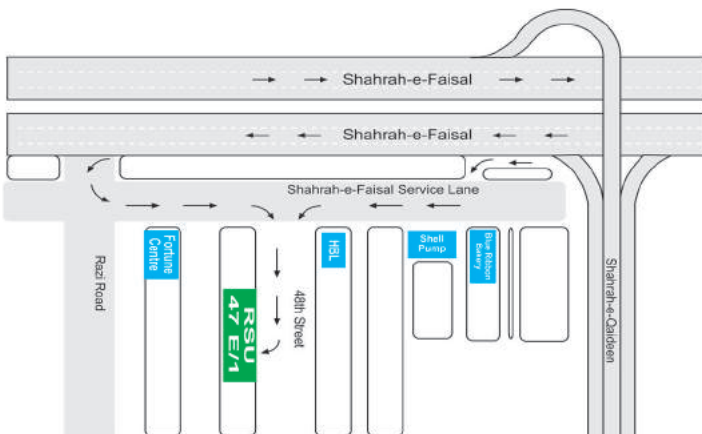
Reform Support Unit Celebrates International Mother Language Day

On 21st February 2016, the Reform Support Unit team along with many other eminent speakers celebrated the International Mother Language Day. The session included an enlightening discussion on "The importance of the Mother Language in Education". The keynote speakers included distinguished columnist & fiction writer Mr. Amar Jaleel, renowned freelance journalist Ms. Zubeida Mustafa, and Director Sindh Abhyas Academy SZABIST, Dr. Ghazala Rahman Rafiq. The discussion was moderated by Prof. Aijaz Ahmed Qureshi. Senior Journalist Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin, MD Indus Resource Center Ms. Sadiqa Salahuddin, CEO FM 105 Mr. Zulfikar Ali Shah and students from different institution also joined in the discussion. Reform Support Unit celebrated this important day as an ice breaker for many more events to follow at their new office. RSU aims to continue these efforts to promote educational initiatives.



New Office Address

47-E/1, 48th Street, Block 6, P.E.C.H.S Nursery, Shahrah-e-Faisal, Karachi. Tel: 021-34320252



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