



## Chairperson's Message

It is a great pleasure for me to join NCHD family as Chairperson. I would like to thank the President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Honourable Asif Ali Zardari, and the Prime Minister, Honorable Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani, for providing me this opportunity to serve the country. This shows the support that the government attaches to the social sector development in Pakistan.

I must appreciate the hard work put in by each and every staff member for the betterment of common people from the platform of NCHD. I am aware of the difficulties they have faced in the transition period that this organization went through. But their courage and steadfastness with which they have faced these challenges will always be remembered. Many of our staff members had to leave the commission in the transition period. It will be my priority to find ways and means, to create space in the organization for them in the coming times so that they rejoin the NCHD family.

I also acknowledge the efforts of Mrs. Faryal Talpur, MNA, and Chairperson of the Special Committee on the NCHD and thank her for her services and support to this organization. I must also congratulate the senior officers especially, the Chief Operating Officer, Zulfiqar Ahmad, for his perseverance and hard work in steering the organization through this period.

The honorable Prime Minister has declared Year 2010 as "The Year of Literacy" and the NCHD, in its capacity as the lead agency for literacy, has been tasked to accelerate

the current pace. As a result, the Commission has geared up all its resources and with the active support of all the donors, stake-holders and partners, has devised a national strategy, which envisages opening of 98,100 community based literacy centres across the country during the next three years.

I feel proud to share what NCHD has achieved after its transition phase. NCHD has organized successful events to mark International Literacy Day, World's Teachers' Day, and International Volunteers' Day and earned great support from the government, stakeholders and donors proving itself a thriving organization.

I would like to request the federal and the provincial ministries to support NCHD for the provision of basic education opportunities to the millions of out of school children and young illiterates in their areas. I also urge the civil society organizations, particularly the media, to highlight relationship of literacy with development, particularly empowerment of people through access to information about their rights and obligations. I also appeal to the international community, particularly UN agencies, donors, and the corporate sector to maximize their assistance for literacy and basic education initiatives for the downtrodden segments of population in Pakistan.

Hope this issue of NCHD newsletter will provide you a glimpse towards the mission of my organization and its implementation strategy. I look forward to your whole hearted support and cooperation in achieving the NCHD's objectives and goals.

**Nafisa Shah, MNA**  
Chairperson NCHD

## Latest in NCHD

“Inauguration of National Literacy Movement 2010”  
NCHD inaugurated the “National Literacy Movement 2010” by opening two literacy centers in Larkana. A ceremony was held to mark this moment at the president house Naudero. Senior Minister for Education Sindh Pir Mazhar-ul-Haq and Mrs. Faryal Talpur MNA were the chief guests. Many other government officials and dignitaries also attended the function.

While addressing the gathering, Mrs. Faryal Talpur who is the Chairperson of the Special Committee on NCHD said that NCHD will play its role in connection to “Education For All”. She said that the closed schools would be reopened while NCHD will work in close collaboration with the provincial government in education and health departments, and administer the vaccination against hepatitis B, C and D to the students. In this regard, the officials of the health/education departments and NCHD may soon coordinate with each other.



### PM approves Rs. 600 million more for NCHD projects

PM Gillani approved allocation of Rs.600 million for NCHD in addition to Rs.300 million already earmarked for PSDP 2009-10 to ensure timely implementation of its projects. This was announced in a meeting held to review the performance of NCHD on October 30, 2009 chaired by PM of Pakistan. At this occasion, Minister for Finance Shaukat Tareen; Minister for Labour and Manpower Syed Khurshid Ahmad Shah; Deputy Chairman Planning Commission Sardar Assaf Ahmad Ali; Secretaries Cabinet, Education and Planning were also present.



### USAID Team Visit

The effectiveness of NCHD approach to sustainable development has attracted attention of various donors time to time. In November 2009, USAID team visited Gujrat and saw firsthand NCHD's projects including health and education. They visited a feeder school in village Dhairy and its Parent Government School along with a Basic Health Unit. The team found the concept of volunteerism, women's participation and community involvement in grassroots development projects very inspiring.



### Visit of Afghan Delegation

A seven member delegation comprising Media Officials from Afghanistan visited NCHD's head office in Islamabad. They were welcomed by the Chairperson NCHD who briefed them about the NCHD's interventions and achievements.



## Formation of Special Committee on NCHD:

NCHD stopped all its operations in August 2008 due to non-availability of funds leading to the separation of its entire program staff. Consequently, a Cabinet Committee was formed to look into the affairs of NCHD. The Committee, in its meetings held on September 3-2008, constituted a Special Committee headed by Mrs. Faryal Talpur, MNA. The purpose was to decide the future role of NCHD.

The other members of Special Committee include Begum Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Shams Qasim Lakha, Farrukh Captain, Dr. Abdul Hafeez Sheikh, Begum Roshan Khursheed Barocha, Dr. Mushtaq A Khan, Ejaz Rahim, Ms Nafisa Shah, Lt. Gen. (R) M. Zubair, Khalid Idrees, Ahmad Owais Pirzada, Zulfiqar Ahmad, Sadiqa Salahuddin, and M. Jahangir Bashar. The committee arrived at the following main decisions which ultimately led to the decision of continuation of NCHD's Education Program.

- NCHD had developed sound implementation models for the provincial governments to achieve UPE and providing literacy skills to illiterate adults.

- NCHD had done a great deal of work for helping the respective provincial departments of education to achieve Universal Primary Education and improve Adult Literacy rate.
- The Commission has the largest team of trained professionals across 122 districts of the country with the network of equipped offices on the same scale to implement interventions for accelerated achievement of EFA goals.
- NCHD was the only Federal Agency having the technical, human, physical resources and the largest outreach to almost 100 percent population of the country.
- All the provinces demanded support of NCHD for fast track achievement of MDGs/EFA goals in the respective provinces/areas.

The Special Committee also instructed NCHD to hold meaningful meetings with Provincial Stakeholders for in-depth discussions and tailoring an integrated plan for each province keeping in view their needs supporting them in meeting the MDGs.

## National Consultative Workshop

As per decisions of Special Committee, NCHD held meetings with provincial teams including AJK. After the preliminary consultations and discussions with all the stakeholders of Education Program, NCHD organized a national consultative workshop on 17-18 February 2009 at Planning Commission's Auditorium in Islamabad.

The purpose was to build consensus amongst the stakeholders for adoption of a uniform, standardized and harmonious national literacy policy and seek valuable input and suggestions from the participants on future literacy programme of NCHD and its role. The participants' recommended that NCHD should continue its literacy program as lead agency till the new apex body for adult literacy is created which is badly needed to meet the internationally committed targets.

### NCHD PC-I and new Chairperson

On the recommendation of Special Committee on NCHD, PC-I has been developed in complete consultation with the provinces. The three year plan was approved by Central Development Working Party in May 2009. The present government appointed Ms. Nafisa Shah as the new chairperson of NCHD in July 2009 along with approving the PC-I of cost Rs. 8.2 billion.

These initiatives showed the government's willingness to continue supporting the unique Public-Private Partnership Organization, its trained human resources and their physical presence on ground throughout the country backed by innovative interventions and potential to support provincial and district education departments to achieve the MDGs by 2015.



## Workshop for Developing National Policy Framework for Literacy

In July-2009, NCHD organized a two-day workshop on the development of National Framework for Literacy and Provincial Plan (2010-2015) in collaboration with UNESCO and Ministry of Education in Murree. The workshop provided an orientation to the focal persons of education department about the format and lines of provincial literacy plan and the process to be adopted for its finalization and approval.



## NCHD Reopens Closed Schools in Interior Sindh



Sindh comprises mostly the areas with poor development indicators, lack of infrastructure such as roads and school, poverty and deprivation, and socio-cultural attitudes that restrict women and prevent girls' education. NCHD is working to overcome these challenges by opening more feeder schools through the support of local people.

The following stories from across the province show how NCHD is doing this and making a difference in people's life.



### Reopening Of Closed Schools

Village Panjoo Khaas Kheli of District Thatha was one of the villages of Sindh where no school was functional till 2004 despite having a school building. The population of 1,000 people is living below poverty line with virtually no access to health and education facilities. In 2004, NCHD carried out a baseline survey of the area. Universal Primary Education Program was implemented on the basis of the survey analysis.

NCHD hired Ms. Sheereen as a teacher to reopen closed school named Government Girls Primary School Panjoo Khaas Kheli for both girls and boys. The teacher told that the community at that time was completely unaware about the importance of education. The idea that the girls should be formally educated was particularly resisted at that time. They did everything to make her life hell by throwing stones and restricting her social activities. But the NCHD team kept her morale up. "NCHD's efforts to bring some enlightenment to my village are commendable and the spark in the eyes of the children depicts the success of NCHD's efforts to improve the status of education in Pakistan," says Sheereen.



### Bringing Education to the Poor in Village Fazal Hussain Pathan

Fazal Hussain Pathan is a small village of Tehsil Talaq District Badin. The community belongs to Hindu religion and Kohli cast. The village owner is very conservative regarding education, with a common belief being that tenants should not be educated. He forces them to work in his fields and Suraj's parents are one of them.

In 2003, when NCHD team visited the village, no one was ready to go against the landlord and opposed the suggestion that all children should go to school despite the fact that Landlord's children were studying in a very well reputed educational institutions.

NCHD team did not give up, but paid repeated visits to the village to persuade the landlord to allow them open a school for the poor community. After several months their efforts paid off and the landlord agreed to have school in his village. A feeder school was established by NCHD in which more than 60 children were enrolled on the day first. This school is still functioning with 28 children.

**Read what Suraj of 12 from village Fazal Hussain Pathan says,**

“My village has been criminally ignored. We lack health and education facilities to the extreme since the very first day of independence. I want to be educated but I am not sure whether I would be able to fulfill my dreams or not. This is the first time in the history of Pakistan that someone (NCHD) has tried for the development and promotion of education and health at grassroots level with the community participation and involvement.”

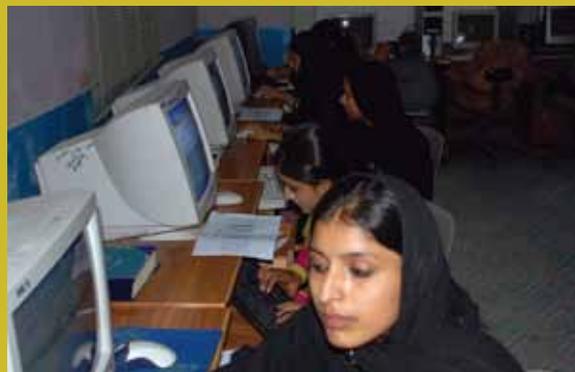


**Bringing Education at the doorstep**

“I don't have words to thank NCHD for providing me and my other fellows the opportunity to excel in life”, says Sawal. He lives in Raja Saen, a small village in Tehsil Sindhri Mirpur Khaas having 55 households. The area is very ignorant with no school in three kilometer radius which covers four more villages. These villages include Got Mureed Khan, Khuda Bakhsh Rajar, Haji Suhrab Rajar, and Pinjaro Khan Khuskkeli.

NCHD opened the door to education for the unnoticed communities of these five villages by establishing a feeder school in 2007. According to the teacher of this school, the school serves as a heaven for the students where they enjoy, talk, laugh, and learn etc etc.

Sawan is studying in grade 3 there. He says, “NCHD has given a purpose to my life by opening this school. Otherwise, my life would have been wasted like his other two illiterate elder brothers who works on daily wages and support their families. They don't know about the wonderful inventions and technologies of the world like me”.



**Creating new opportunities through learning**

NCHD community technology and learning program is a blessing for the learners of some of the most remote areas of Pakistan. The areas include Badin, Gujrat, Mansehra, Pishin, Mardan, Noshehro Feroz, Attock and Thatta. The program is designed to bring IT use to rural communities, in particular women, and thereby improve their employment prospects.

One beneficiary of CTLC is Jamila who lives in village Golachi, District Badin. Her poor father has a family of 9 to support with meager and irregular earning as a farmer. He made Jamila a graduate of commerce through his matchless determination and struggle. NCHD started a certified course in computer education in 2008 and Jamila got enrolled in the first session. After completing 14 weeks training, she got job in Government High School Badin in April 2009.

Today Jamila is able to support her family and ensure that her younger sisters and brothers can become computer literate in order to become bread earners. Education creates opportunities that change lives.

“I feel very contented when I see the faces of my parents glittering with proud ness and satisfaction”, says Jamila. She dedicates this success of hers to NCHD which have brought prosperity to her family and want to grow more in life by doing MBA. Her younger sister is currently attending the computer training session at CTLC Badin.

## NCHD: Strengthening & Restructuring Health Care Delivery System

NCHD has initiated this program in collaboration with Government of Punjab. The Program ensures the access to health services for the ignored communities by strengthening and restructuring of health care delivery system. Basic Health Unit's (BHU) catchment area is the implementation unit of program.

NCHD first aligns the real health needs of the population, builds up the capacity of health personnel in "Health management", and then empowers communities to become active participants in the process of health delivery.

### Main Objectives:

- Integration of all the health programs/activities at Union Council level
- Improving health behaviors
- Provision of need-based:
- Preventive services (outreach & facility based)
- Basic curative services
- Emergency services
- Provision of maternal care (outreach & facility based)
- Establishment of effective referral system

Till now, this Model is being implemented in 12 districts of Punjab through 916 Basic Health Units and is providing health services to 22.7 million people.



PIPHCM Program Districts					
1	Attock	5	Sargodha	9	Mandi Bahauddin
2	Jhelum	6	Sialkot	10	Sheikhupura
3	Gujrat	7	Khanewal	11	Jhang
4	Bahawalpur	8	Muzaffargarh	12	Gujranwala

### Brightening the children's future

Tahira is a student of Government Elementary School Kotla Androon, village Rajanpur. Despite of maintaining good attendance in classroom, her results were not up to the mark. She was unable to read her lessons easily and used to take longer time in writing as well. Her teachers and parents both were unable to understand why this girl is unable to perform satisfactory. Then, NCHD organized a medical camp in her school. Tahira's weaknesses were shared with the NCHD health team by the school administration. Along with many other such students, Eye specialist Dr. Karim Baksh conducted thorough examination of her eyes. He diagnosed her with very weak eye sight which was causing her difficulty in seeing things normally ultimately effecting her studies. NCHD provided her with correct eye glasses making her better student.



NCHD is providing this facility of screening students of primary classes in 12 districts of Punjab under it Punjab Integrated Primary Health Care Extension Model.

## NCHD Relief Operation for the IDPs

### Creating a sense of normalcy!

More than half of the 3 million displaced people during the Malakand Operations were children having very acute needs. Shakeela was one of them. She was one more to 395 girls enrolled in the NCHD transitional schools at Sabzi Mandi Camp Mardan. Most of the teachers in all the 15 transitional schools worked on voluntary basis, and NCHD provided school bags and stationery items along with some recreational material like footballs etc to the students.



"Fear of Taliban and then the unavoidable military operation in my area of Deer were the reasons which forced all the families in my hometown to leave our homes and lands and become displaced in our own country", said Shakeela of 12. The journey towards safer areas during the military action was another calamity they had faced. Her family which consists of nine members including four sisters and three brothers traveled two days on foot without food to reach Batkhela.

She was in fifth grade when Taliban demanded the people not to send their girls to schools and announced to make them animadversion if they did not obey their command. Along with this, Taliban started demolition of schools to curb females' education and restricted them to their homes. "We can't even go out to bring water for our daily use", Shakeela added. She also told that she as well as her sisters and class fellows all were very distressed when they lost their schools.



In these circumstances, NCHD transitional schools were like a heaven for girls like Shakeela. The teachers deputed in these schools were trained in trauma counseling to help children keep aside the problems and worries they have faced and still facing.

Shakeela and her family praised NCHD's initiatives both in the field of education and health, and demanded NCHD to provide education facility to girls like her when they go back to their home where all the schools especially girls' schools have been demolished.

#### Achievements

- 818 medical camps were organized
- 63,031 patients were treated for diseases of all kind
- Medicines worth Rs.37 millions were distributed
- 15 transitional schools have been established
- 25 teachers were provided to the transitional schools
- 1,323 children got enrolled including 928 boys and 395 girls
- 157 teachers were given training in trauma counseling

#### Looking Ahead

NCHD is well aware that, despite its many achievements, much work remains. Looking ahead, it plans to continue the excellent work in all the districts of Pakistan which means nationwide coverage. According to PC-I (2009-12), NCHD would be implementing its universal primary education and literacy projects in 134 districts of Pakistan. The project has already been launched on September 8, 2009 by the honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani.

Major Deliverables	2009-2012
Data Collection	22 million H/Holds
Government Teachers involved	93,185
Support in Enrollment	10 million
Dropout Reduction	From 50% to <20%
Adult literacy centers to be established	107,040
Learners to be enrolled	2,676,000

## Events and Activities

### "International Volunteers Day"

To mark the International Volunteers Day, National Commission for Human Development along with National Volunteers Movement organized an event. Federal Minister for Youth Affairs Shahid Hussain Bhutto was the chief guest.

Chairperson NCHD at this moment highlighted the work done by NCHD volunteers for the development of Pakistan. They helped enroll over 8 million out of schools children in primary education and established over 22,000 literacy centers in which over 2.6 million females got education.



### "Symposium Engaging Teachers' Associations to Achieve MDGs"

To mark the World Teachers' Day, a symposium was held by NCHD in collaboration with Department of Education Sindh and UNESCO at Karachi. The theme of the event was "Engaging Teachers Unions/Associations for Achieving MDGs-Universal Primary Education". Senior Minister for Education Pir Mazhar ul Haq and Chief Minister Sindh Syed Qaim Ali Shah were the Chief Guests of the occasion.



The purpose was to identify major gaps in primary education and determine ways and means for more meaningful engagement of the Teachers Unions/associations. The participants included provincial and federal secretaries of education and

representative from allied departments, representatives of the Teachers Unions at the national, provincial and district levels, representatives from partner organizations, key persons from organizations working on primary/basic education, professionals from NGOs working in the province, Universities and other institutes, teachers, and Executive District Officers Education / District Officers Education.



### “Consultation Meeting with Parliamentarians on Literacy”

A consultation meeting with the parliamentarians was organized by NCHD to highlight the role of parliamentarians for the promotion of Literacy in Pakistan and create awareness about the challenges and issues regarding Education For All Goals. More than 30 senior parliamentarians participated in the event and promised to work for promotion of literacy through mobilizing the masses and advocating federal, provincial and district governments to increase budget for literacy.

In the end, Begum Shehnaz Wazir Ali, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Social Sector concluded the ceremony by appreciating NCHD’s efforts for bringing together the policy makers and implementers to improve literacy rate in the country.



### “NCHD launched its Literacy Program on International Literacy Day”

International Literacy Day was marked across the world including Pakistan on September 8, 2009. National Commission for Human Development celebrated the day by launching its three-year plan for Universal Primary Education and Adult Literacy in the country.



NCHD has organized an event titled “Literacy and Nation Building: Approaching the Year 2010” in collaboration with Ministry of Education, UNESCO, and ILO. Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani, the Honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan was the Chief Guest of the occasion. Governor Pukhttonkhwa (NWFP) Owais Ahmad Ghani, Chief Minister Pukhtoonkhwa (NWFP) Ameer Haider Khan Hoti, and Minister for States and Frontier Regions Ghulam Farid Kathia also participated at the occasion. The event was attended by more than 500 people including MNAs, MPAs, Senators, Higher Government Officials, and various donor organizations.

## NCHD AT A GLANCE

### Picture Gallery

