

# DID YOU KNOW?

The Parliament is referred in the Constitution of Pakistan as the 'Majlis e Shura'. It comprises the President (Article 41) Senate of Pakistan (Article 59) and the National Assembly of Pakistan (Article 51). The National Assembly is made of 342 Parliamentarians, elected directly on the basis of population, including reserve seats for women (60) and non-Muslims (10) elected for a term of five years (Article 52).

The Parliamentarians are responsible for Law making: Enacting new laws and amending old ones (Article 70). They perform oversight by examining and challenging the work of the government. They are responsible for the Budget: Passing the annual budget and exercising financial control and represent the voters and citizens.

The Parliamentarians consolidate State Building goals and have the influence and power to rethink the ways policies are formed and carried out. They can initiate programmes on federal, national and international level towards SDGs. As the representatives of the citizens of the country they can bring up their aspirations and drive the country towards a more equitable and sustainable future.

47percent of the population in Pakistan is under or not immunized according to Pakistan's Health and Demographic survey 2013. Keeping these alarming figures at priority, Pakistan recognized the need to form a Taskforce for the monitoring and evaluation of the development agenda. Therefore, under the vision of Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, a Taskforce of Parliamentarians was formed in the year 2014 for the oversight of development indicators which then led to the formation of the Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat in 2017 to serve as a platform for data and technical assistance of the Taskforce members for their legislative business.

Pakistan's Parliament is the first in the world to initiate and establish a SDGs Taskforce and a Secretariat, setting an example for the rest to follow.

## From The Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat



Coordinator Sahrish Kausar  
Young Development Associates Meral Ahsan, Sibghatullah Nawaz

Pakistan is strongly pursuing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in line with Vision 2025. The SDGs Secretariat has been established to prioritize the SDGs agenda in the Legislative business and oversight of the Parliamentarians. With its units working in all provinces, Pakistan assures a collaborative approach towards development.

Devwatch is Pakistan's first magazine of the Parliamentarians highlighting their take on SDGs. It is a representation of the unique collaboration between the Parliament, media, development sector and the civil society to create an impact amongst masses and letting them know that Pakistan is not the one to stay behind when it comes to development commitments.

We began by compiling the activities and achievements of the Taskforce members. Those untiring efforts and sleepless nights that actually led to the making of this magazine gives us a heartwarming feeling and a sense of achievement for being able to work with these custodians and compiling their actions and success stories that ultimately represent Pakistan.

The first issue of Devwatch showcases federal and constituency actions for SDGs. It lays light on the responsibility owned at the federal level with respect to SDGs by dedicating a fully functional State of the Art Secretariat for SDGs. We would like to compliment the Project Management Unit (PMU) at the National Assembly of Pakistan which has been an active support for the secretariat. Mr. Shamoon Hashmi, Joint Secretary and coordinator of PMU has taken active participation since the inception of the Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs in 2014 and initially dedicated efforts for the establishment of the secretariat.

Under the leadership of Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb, we at the secretariat, engage with the Taskforce members on regular basis to provide them with data and technical assistance for their oversight and informed legislative business. Working with them has been nothing less than utmost pleasure. Their energy and commitment towards the SDGs is remarkable. We feel honored to be part of this secretariat and hope to contribute positively towards a better Pakistan.



Research Team Aila Ammar, Iqra Bukhari



1<sup>st</sup> Parliament of the world to establish Parliamentary Oversight Mechanisms on the National Development Agenda

1<sup>st</sup> Parliament to have

# DevWatch

PARLIAMENTARY PURSUITS FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



Newsletter Jan-March 2018 | Issue 1



## Right of EVERY CHILD IMMUNIZATION

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Leave Feedback

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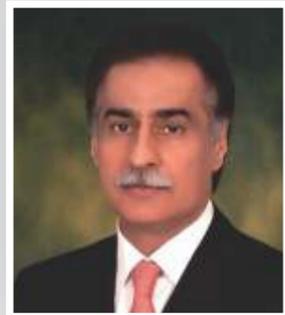
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Dev ? Quizz

Which province has the most immunization coverage?

a. Punjab b. Balochistan c. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa c. Sindh

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### From the SPEAKER'S DESK

**Sardar Ayaz Sadiq**  
Speaker of the  
National Assembly of Pakistan

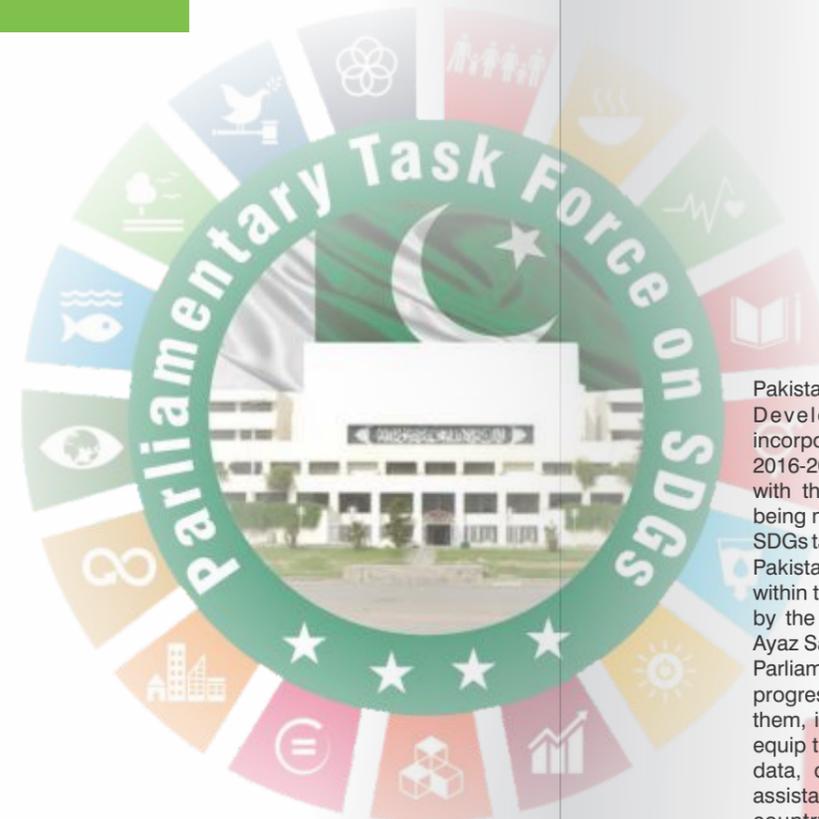
The Parliament of Pakistan holds true to the international development commitments. National Assembly of Pakistan launched a long-term Strategic Plan 2014-2018 and integrated Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with this strategic framework. In this regard, the parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs was formulated at national and provincial levels. Consequently, a joint meeting of federal and provincial Taskforces was convened in Islamabad to formulate a common strategy and learn from each other's experiences. As a result, Pakistan became the first country in the world to have shifted its policy from MDGs to SDGs long before the SDGs were launched globally. Pakistan was recognized for this by United Nations and Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

In February 2016, an unprecedented benchmark was set by the Parliament of Pakistan by establishing the world's first secretariat solely dedicated to SDGs. Pakistan also offers a lesson for all world parliaments to promote sustainable energy by being the first 'Green Parliament' in the world that not only operates entirely on solar power but also generates surplus energy for the national grid. In addition, for scaling up efforts to

address issues like gender equality, education, malnutrition, food insecurity and poverty across the Nation, National Assembly has also organized National Parliamentary Conferences over the last few years.

The Parliamentarians are custodians of law therefore their active involvement is vital for accelerating progress on the SDGs. The SDGs secretariat serves as not just a central forum but also a resource centre for the Taskforce Members where they have access to up-to-date information and technical support to enhance their parliamentary role. Established only last year, the SDGs Secretariat has achieved significant strides in tracking development targets under the leadership of Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb's.

After the 18th Amendment, various subjects were devolved to the provinces making it essential to track progress of SDGs at provincial level. Hence, respective Provincial Taskforces were established for more effective oversight at provincial level. We are also heedful of the importance of the academia, development partners, civil society, media and other relevant stakeholders and welcome their support.



Pakistan is actively devoted towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which have been incorporated into the country's National Agenda Vision 2016-2025 and the long-term planning framework, in-line with the international framework. Collective efforts are being made at federal and provincial levels to achieve the SDGs targets.

Pakistan lacked consistent and structured leadership within the Development Sector which was finally provided by the Speaker, National Assembly of Pakistan, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in 2013 whose vision led to the creation of the Parliamentary Task force to monitor and evaluate the progress of the Development Agenda and supported them, in doing so, by establishing a platform that could equip the parliamentarians with relevant and comparable data, critical insights along with extending technical assistance. Therefore, Pakistan has become the first country to have a full-fledged Parliamentary SDGs secretariat at the National Assembly and Taskforces both in federal and provincial legislatures.

The parliamentary Taskforce started its business by organizing an exceptional Parliamentary conference on MDGs in June 2014 by bringing together broad spectrum of stakeholders. The timing of the conference, intentionally, coinciding with the transitioning framework from MDGs to SDGs where countries documented their various successes and priorities for setting new goals.

The landmark change came via this conference as for the first time in her history Pakistan's Parliament broke away from relinquishing the Development agenda to third party agencies such as Donors, civil society and executives, to controlling the agenda by monitoring and evaluating the development goals that have been committed by Pakistan to the UN in particular but more importantly to provide a better quality of life to her people.

The Parliamentary SDGs secretariat commencement and inauguration featured Malnutrition as an epidemic of such unmitigated proportions that it warranted to be declared as a national emergency. In collaboration with key stakeholders, the Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat developed a structured framework articulating annual target, focused work plans with clear goals and accountabilities focusing on priorities such as Health, Education, Climate Change, Human Rights, and Routine Immunization. With the passage of time the list is sure to grow.

The strategic intent is to develop comparable scorecards for each priority in order to evaluate and monitor the overall development framework of Pakistan. The scorecards will also provide the Parliamentarians with a detailed development profile of their constituency in relation to the various SDGs, enabling them to formulate and push for effective and informed legislation and oversight.



### From the CONVENER'S DESK

**Marriyum Aurangzeb**  
Minister of State  
Information broadcasting and National Heritage  
Member of the Parliament, Chairperson of the SDGs  
Secretariat, National Assembly of Pakistan.

It is praise worthy that the SDGs Taskforce which has representation from all parties is above politics and playing its due role. Expanding from 12 to 129 members of the Taskforces at federal and provincial level, Pakistan is progressing towards Development.

There is a need for creating awareness concerning social and development programmes in the field of SDGs and media has an important role to play in this regard. Trainings have begun to equip the reporters with the understanding of the development agenda. Pakistan Television will soon launch a dedicated channel for coverage of the Parliament and provincial assemblies which will help increase awareness about the activities and performance of the elected legislatures and SDGs in particular.

The Parliament, media, and the civil society are collaborating to cope with the challenges of malnutrition and health issues. The secretariat has signed agreements with development partners in the areas of malnutrition, clean drinking water, health, education, climate change, and waste management and the parliamentarians are actively pursuing for achieving targets. The SDGs secretariat would soon be launching its website having pages of the provinces as well to highlight their activities and performance.

The magnitude of the achievements is an unequivocal testament to the power of a strengthened Parliament and is a credit to the vision and leadership of the honourable Speaker of the National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq. Once the vision is matured and the Parliament takes complete ownership, the tenacity and sincerity will follow, as exemplified by the Parliamentary Task force on SDGs that is navigating the various challenges through the uncharted waters.





# HEALTH FACTS - PAKISTAN

Data Source: PDHS 2006-07 & 2012-13

Neo-natal mortality:  
**55/1000**  
livebirths (stagnant  
for last 20 years)

Infant mortality:  
**74/1000**  
livebirths

U5 mortality:  
**89/1000**  
livebirths

Maternal mortality:  
**276/100,000**  
livebirths

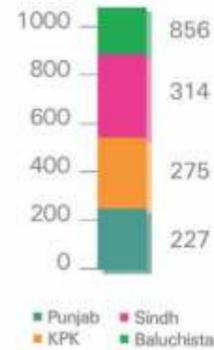
National coverage  
for fully immunized  
children between  
12-23 months:  
**54%**  
(66% in urban  
areas and 48%  
in rural areas)

Immunization coverage  
variation by region:  
**16.4%**  
of fully immunized  
children in Baluchistan  
compared to  
**65.6%**  
in Punjab.

Deliveries in the  
presence of Skilled  
Birth Attendants:  
**52%**

- 20 Cases of Polio in 2016
- 44% of under 5 children are stunted
- 21% Open defecation practice
- 91,000 U5 Child deaths from pneumonia/year
- 53,300 U5 Child deaths from diarrhoea/year
- Only 12% of women know of ways to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV.
- Pending return of 71,969 IDP families and 232,202 returned families requiring lifesaving health services.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY-PROVINCIAL VARIATIONS



## HEALTH POLICIES:

National Health Vision  
**2016-2025**

National Vision  
**2016-2025**  
(RMNCAH&N)

## HEALTH SYSTEMS:

- Primary health care centres & units (per 10 000 population) – 0.5<sup>1</sup>
- Currently the public healthcare system comprises of 1167 hospitals, 5695 dispensaries, 5464 basic health units, 675 rural health centres, 733 mother and child health centres and allied medical professionals.<sup>2</sup>

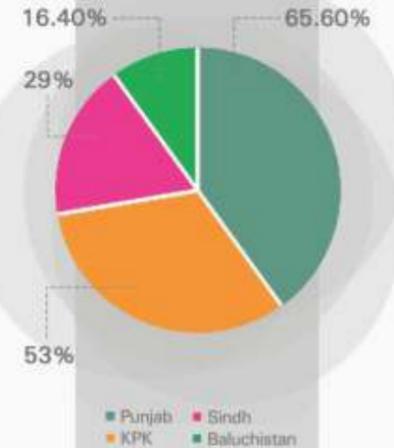
## HEALTH PROGRAMMES:

- National Expanded Programme for Immunization (EPI)
- Programme for Family Planning and Primary Health Care (LHWs Programme)
- Malaria Control Programme
- Tuberculosis (TB) Control Programme
- Maternal & Child Health Programme
- HIV/ AIDS Control Programme
- Prime Minister's Programme for Prevention and Control of Hepatitis in Pakistan
- Polio Eradication Initiative (PEI)

## CURRENT SPENDING IN HEALTH SECTOR:

- Total expenditure on health per capita (Int'l \$, 2014) – 37<sup>3</sup>
- Total expenditure on health as % of GDP (2014) – 0.58<sup>4</sup>
- Total Public sector development expenditure on health (PKR Billion) – 39.9<sup>5</sup>

## IMMUNIZATION COVERAGE



<sup>1</sup> WHO Country Statistical Profiles 2016  
[http://applications.emro.who.int/bal/EMROPUB\\_2016\\_EN\\_19169.pdf?us=1&us=1](http://applications.emro.who.int/bal/EMROPUB_2016_EN_19169.pdf?us=1&us=1)

<sup>2</sup> Pakistan Bureau of Statistics-World Bank Report

<sup>3</sup> World Bank Data 2015-16 - [http://www.finance.gov.pk/survey/chapters\\_16/11\\_Health.pdf](http://www.finance.gov.pk/survey/chapters_16/11_Health.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Pakistan Economic Survey 2015-16

<sup>5</sup> Pakistan Economic Survey 2015-16 - Finance Division (FF Wing)



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



## National Parliamentary meet on

# Malnutrition



The Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs organized a two-Day National meet on Malnutrition (NPMM) at Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) on the 17th and 18th of February 2016. Inaugurated by the Speaker, National Assembly of Pakistan, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq where he expressed that during the past two years the Parliamentary Taskforce had been working actively to chalk out a national parliamentary development

departments of Planning and development, leading health practitioners, members of the civil society, media and representatives of the international development community as well as experts on Malnutrition, Mother and child health. While addressing the gathering, Mr. Sadiq highlighted the need for making joint efforts to tackle the challenge of malnutrition. "Development challenges such as the fight against

assemblies.

The Minister of State for Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage, Convener of the National Parliamentary Taskforce, Marriyum Aurangzeb, in her welcome note, specified that the National Parliamentary Meet was the first conference initiated by Members of the Parliament on the important subject, which has been affecting lives and prosperity of millions of children and women across Pakistan. While elaborating the agenda of the Conference, she informed that the meet was organized to bring all federal and provincial legislators on board to agree on a consensus agenda to address the reasons and determinants of malnutrition in Pakistan.

The Federal Minister of State, National Health and Regulations, Saira Afzal Tarar, speaking on the occasion said that Pakistani women and children suffer from some of the highest rates of malnutrition in the world with a national nutritional stunting prevalence among children under five of 43.7 percent. She emphasized, Pakistan also has the second highest number of severely wasted children. She also said that each year, more than 45 percent children are born with serious problems of stunting due to malnutrition, globally, Malnutrition is directly responsible for three lac deaths per year in children younger than five years in developing countries



agenda. The firm resolve and commitment shown by this conference was just the starting point.

The Conference had more than 200 delegates including Members of National Assembly, Senate, Speakers of the provincial legislative assemblies, all Education and Health Ministers of the country, representatives of provincial

malnutrition are very complex and needed an integrated approach by all stakeholders including the parliament, government, experts from development sector, media and civil society", he said.

He also expressed hope that the provincial and legislative assemblies would follow suit and replicate the same within their respective

and contributes indirectly to more than half of all deaths in children worldwide. She affirmed that Pakistan will take serious measure to combat these challenges.

Later, Convener SDGs Taskforce Punjab, Ms. Azma Bukhari chaired a session focusing on 'End poverty everywhere in all its forms' and came up with recommendations to eradicate poverty by improving the quality of life. Another session led by Convener SDGs Taskforce Sindh Mahtab Akbar Rashdi contemplated on 'End hunger, achieve food security, improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture' suggesting long term policy formulation for ensuring food security. It was followed by session on 'Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages' chaired by Convener SDGs Taskforce Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Arif Yousaf that discussed compilation

of existing legislation on malnutrition in other legislatures.

The Speaker, Balochistan Assembly, Rahila Hameed Khan Durrani congratulated Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq for his leadership and development initiatives, "Members of Provincial Assembly of Balochistan will keep no stone unturned in implementation of SDGs to improve nutrition and food security in the province." She pledged speaking at NPMM.

The recommendations were compiled after these rigorous brain-storming sessions and deliberations followed by group activities in the conference. Recommendations read out by Mr. Sadiq called for declaration of national emergency on malnutrition. Establishment of an autonomous and empowered National Commission on

Malnutrition of 'Mother and Child' was also suggested. Lastly, media was directed to dedicate at least 10 percent of airtime to create awareness regarding this grave concern.

"This opportunity must lead all of us to collaborate our efforts and collectively devise a roadmap for upcoming years to confront the development challenges specially child and maternal malnutrition" Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, said in his concluding remarks at NPMM.

Later, in the evening parliamentarians joined the honourable Speaker, Mr. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq for the inauguration ceremony of the SDGs Secretariat at the National Assembly of Pakistan.

## The Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat, National Assembly Pakistan.



ISLAMABAD February 16, 2016 - The National Assembly of Pakistan established the world's first secretariat dedicated to SDGs and the elevation of informed legislative business for Development goals.

At a very impressive ceremony, the Speaker, National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq inaugurated the secretariat and expressed the need for institutionalizing the (initial) 33-member group for effective Parliamentary business which was to be quenched by this secretariat. The ceremony was attended by MPs, Development experts, resident directors of reputed International Organizations and over 25 ambassadors and members of diplomatic corps.

This State-of-the-Art Secretariat was built with the cooperation of UNDP Pakistan with zero-burden on the national exchequer to provide technical assistance to Taskforce members and inclusion of the Parliament in the



development agenda through effective oversight.

Pakistan was the world's first country to have a Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs devoted to ensuring regular parliamentary oversight, effective legislative inputs and meaningful representation of their electorates. Creating another standard in the world by establishing the Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat, Pakistan has taken the International development agenda to the next level.



Under a binding contract signed by the Speaker, National Assembly of Pakistan, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and the Country Head, UNICEF Pakistan Ms. Angela Kearney, they agreed to strengthen the drive to build a superior Pakistan for Children and everyone on the whole through effective legislative business.

Present at the occasion, was the Minister of State for Information Broadcasting and National Heritage, Marrayum Aurangzeb who is also the Convener of the National Parliamentary SDGs Taskforce. She commended the support of its development partners in translating the National commitment towards SDGs into tangible outcomes.

Speaking at the occasion, Mr. Sadiq highlighted the leadership role of the Parliamentary Taskforce and the importance of partnerships when it

comes to moving Pakistan's development agenda forward. He said, "The Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs is taking ownership in achieving the development targets in Pakistan with the help of its partners like UNICEF and GAVI. We want to build this Secretariat into a proper institution that will have a broader scope of work to achieve the SDGs in Pakistan."

"I congratulate the speaker for his leadership on SDGs and Madam Marrayum Aurangzeb for her vision, commitment and continued dedication to the development agenda for the children and women of Pakistan. From MDGs to SDGs, it has been a long journey and Madam Aurangzeb and the Parliament of Pakistan have been at the forefront of efforts in achieving development goals for the country" said Ms. Angela Kearney - UNICEF Country Head for Pakistan.

ISLAMABAD March 8, 2017 - The Parliamentary Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Secretariat and UNICEF Pakistan initiated a partnership through common objectives and a target oriented work plan for the welfare of children and women in Pakistan.

Both stakeholders, under the Letter of Agreement (LoA) commit towards SDGs most relevant to Pakistan, likely to expand with time.



## Gavi The Vaccine Alliance High Level Mission meets the SDGs Parliamentary Taskforce



### Huma Khawar Gavi Representative

Immunization is one of the most important advances in public health and it has saved more lives in the world than any other health intervention. Nevertheless, despite the efforts to strengthen supply side, Pakistan's Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) is facing multiple challenges including lack of awareness on the importance of the Immunization, absence of health seeking behaviour among masses, religious and cultural misconceptions about vaccines, low morale of vaccinators, and polio eradication.

The 2012-2013 Demographic and

Health Survey showed fully immunized child coverage as being 66 percent for Punjab, 53 percent for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), while only 29 percent for Sindh and 16 percent for Balochistan. These disparities are not only in coverage for basic vaccines, as new vaccines have been introduced scale-up has been slow to reach all provinces and coverage rates vary.

To strengthen and improve immunization coverage, it is imperative to involve existing institutional structures of the legislatures including National and provincial chapters of SDGs Task Forces and Parliamentary Committees comprising those Parliamentarians who are working directly or indirectly with health and can take this cause

with positive approach and raise this issue in the Parliament.

A committed leadership of Parliamentarians can strongly advocate on the issue at the highest level, allocate adequate resources for child health, legislate to ensure universal access to essential care and also oversee the implementation of relevant policies.

Pakistan is the largest recipient of funding from Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, an international organization created in 2000 to improve access to new and underused vaccines for children living in world's poorest countries. Gavi aims to reach 300 million children between 2016 and 2020, preventing 5-6 million deaths





over the long term.

In March 2016, Gavi's Deputy CEO, Ms Anuradha Gupta travelled to Pakistan leading a High Level Mission 'to build the value of vaccines' and political commitment and highest level support for improved immunization coverage in Pakistan. The Mission included Alliance partners from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, DFID, UK AID, World Bank, NORAD, IVAC, UNICEF and WHO and the Federal Expanded Programme on Immunization

During a high level meeting with National and Provincial Conveners of SDGs Taskforce chaired by the Minister of State Information Broadcasting & National Heritage Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb, Convener, Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs, participants discussed how to utilize the great potential and solicit support of Parliamentarians as Advocates for Routine Immunization for children.

Ms Gupta encouraged the public representatives to initiate a Parliamentary Dialogue on strengthening Routine Immunization and identifying key priority areas for evidence based parliamentary oversight and legislation. The members agreed that they have the power to increase legislative business to highlight the issues related to immunization and polio eradication in the Parliament. They can make policies on immunization services, delivery and demand creation.

Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb agreed to partner with Gavi and develop a shared work plan with activities that will be pursued by parliamentarians in collaboration with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and the Federal EPI for the achievement of SDG 3. This also includes developing SDGs tracking score-cards for Parliamentarians to monitor their performance on maternal and child healthcare related activities

Dr Syed Saqlain Ahmed Gilani, National Manager, Expanded Programme on Immunization briefed the parliamentarians and gave details of challenges of low Routine Immunization, a set of childhood immunization schedule which is available free of cost by the government's Expanded Programme on Immunization.

Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb concluded on the note that due to the focus on polio eradication in recent years, there was a misunderstanding amongst Pakistani communities that polio was the only Vaccine Preventable Disease (VPD) for which immunization was required. She urged parliamentarians to convey to their constituencies that in addition to polio, families must protect

infants from nine additional VPDs through the RI program. The meeting concluded with the consensus that committed leadership of Parliamentarians can add to the steps towards reaching the target of SDG 3

Under the partnership, for the past one year, Gavi, has been engaged with Parliamentarians in the Sustainable Development Goals working group to improve visibility of key bottlenecks to immunization and further political buy-in to the benefits of immunization. Also in the plan is the introduction of scorecards, including a mapping module that will be presented to the working group and used to further inform and develop political support among parliamentarians.

## The SDGs Secretariat **SIGNS MOU** with LEAD Pakistan at The National Assembly Islamabad



ISLAMABAD September 14, 2017 - LEAD Pakistan, a national think tank, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for enhancing technical assistance to the SDGs Taskforce members and the secretariat staff.

The Speaker of the National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and LEAD Pakistan Chief Executive Officer Ali Tauqeer Sheikh signed the agreement and expanded grounds for the Development commitments.

The ceremony was joined by the Minister of State for Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage Marriyum Aurangzeb, Chairperson of the Parliamentary Sustainable Development Goals Secretariat along with the Taskforce Members and the SDGs team.

Talking to media, Mr. Sadiq said that the objective of the agreement was to



overcome the problems in the implementation of SDGs in the country and providing training to members of the provincial assemblies and their staff. He also said that Pakistan's Parliament enjoys the singular honor of being the first legislature to have a full-fledged SDGs secretariat.

Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb highlighted that the Task force members and staff would be imparted with focused training

on SDGs to improve the delivery at the grassroots level.

She also said that LEAD Pakistan was a research-based institution on issues, like environment, water and energy conservation, which would provide technical assistance and research-based data to the parliamentarians for informed policy making and help them legislate on various subjects if required; thus enhancing their oversight capabilities with regard to the implementation of the SDGs.



"After the 18th amendment, the implementation of SDGs was the responsibility of the provinces, and this MoU could also be integrated with the SDGs task forces in the provinces, which have been formed to ensure country wide implementation of SDGs. The SDGs secretariat will also work with them within the framework of this MoU. For the first time legislators had been taken on board in the process of sustainable development goals and constituency-based focused funding was being done to meet the SDGs targets. Parliamentarians would be empowered with knowledge, data and learning of soft skills through different capacity building programmes. The signing of this MoU would promote a new tradition of research based informed oversight by the Parliamentarians, while disposing of their Parliamentary business concerning the environment and climate change", affirmed Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb.



FACTS ABOUT WASHING HANDS

**Our hands, our future**  
GLOBAL THEME

- SDGs Target 6.2
- Hand-washing with soap is important for meeting targets around child survival, nutrition, gender, equity, and education.
- Globally, around 35percent of hospitals and health centres do not have running water and soap for hand-washing.
- Lack of basic toilets endangers the lives of the mother and baby, and prevents health care workers from reinforcing healthy hygiene habits.
- Every year, pneumonia and diarrhoea kill 14 million children under five around the world.
- Over 53,000 children die every year in Pakistan due to diarrhoea as a result of poor sanitation and drinking water access.
- Hand washing can save lives, cutting deaths associated with diarrhoea by almost one-half and deaths from acute respiratory infections by nearly one-quarter.
- At the time of birth, simple acts like hand-washing with soap, sterile equipment and the use of antiseptics can be the difference between life and death.
- When children wash their hands with soap after going to the toilet or before eating, they reduce their risk of getting diarrhoea by more than 40 percent.
- 1 gram of poop contains 10 million viruses and 1 million bacteria. Washing hands with soap after going to the toilet is critical for preventing the spread of disease.
- Every child deserves a fair chance to survive and thrive. In the places where children are born and where they develop, at home, in hospitals and at school, hand-washing with soap is one of the simplest ways of keeping them healthy.

[https://www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/index\\_73521.html](https://www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/index_73521.html)



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION  
**SAAF SEHATMAND PAKISTAN!**



ISLAMABAD November 14, 2017 - The Global Hand-washing Day (GHWD) was observed in Pakistan to showcase the importance of washing hands and other healthy practices for a better life. GHWD, is an international advocacy event dedicated to build the importance of washing hands with soap as a preventive measure against various diseases. This day was celebrated across the world in many creative fun-filled ways.

With the objective of improving personal hygiene through healthy hand-washing behaviours among children and the communities, celebrations focused on health benefits and linking the lack of practice with related adverse effects on children's education.

This year, marking an important moment, The Government of Pakistan, Parliament and the SDGs Secretariat participated in the National Campaign

**“Saaf Sehatmand Pakistan! Clean Healthy Pakistan”**, an initiatives of the sector partners focused on safe drinking water, sanitation and to promote healthy living amongst people.

**We will generate a National Debate on 'WASH'**

SDGs Parliamentary Taskforce subcommittee on Water and Sanitation took charge of oversight on indicators across the country and will be initiating a Parliamentary debate on WASH in the Next session at the Assembly.

**We will teach 'Wash' to our younger generation!**

Government of Pakistan is working towards achieving a transformational change in WASH at both national and provincial levels through implementing various approaches and activities

linked to improving water, sanitation & hygiene.

With the sector partners support a Multi-Ministerial approach has been set to make history. The Federal Ministry of Education & Professional Training and the Ministry of Climate Change have developed WASH curriculum for Schools. For the first time water and hygiene practices will be taught to students of grade 1-12. This endeavour has been completed for Grade-1-5 and will be launched by building awareness among the citizens, students, children and teachers.

**'Pakistan School Safety Framework'**

The Ministry of Capital Administration Division and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) have developed a framework that also puts emphasis on the importance of hand-washing with soap for school going children.

**'Saaf Sehatmand Pakistan'**

The Ministry of Climate Change and Ministry of Information will be supporting the positioning of 'Saaf Sehatmand Pakistan' as a national behaviour campaign in line with this year's theme of GHWD, 'Our hands, our future', comprising airtime for talk shows and electronic media messages focusing on the global theme that is part of the South Asian Conference on Sanitation (SACOSAN) being hosted by Pakistan in April.



## Parliamentary SDGs Taskforce and Development Partners Consultation and Knowledge - sharing meets

### Parliamentary SDGs Taskforce 2015-2016

**Climate Change** January 15, 2015 - Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Chaudhry, National Climate Change Expert UNDP gave a presentation on Climate Change to SDGs Taskforce members.

**SDGs Key Indicators** February 12, 2015 - A briefing was given by Ms. Baela Raza Jamil, Director Programs, Idara-e-Taleem o Agahi on "Orientation to latest version of SDGs, key indicators and roadmap to finalization".

**Climate Change** June 23, 2015 - Presentation on current Climate Change situation in the country by a panel guest from Lead Pakistan.

**Establishment of SDGs Secretariat** October 9, 2015 - A meeting was organized with UNDP regarding establishment of SDGs Secretariat in National Assembly as a result SDGs Secretariat refurbishment started in the National Assembly which was completed on 10th February, 2016.

**Brainstorming Session** February 3, 2016 - A brainstorming session for the National Parliamentary Meet on Malnutrition (NPMM) was organized comprising participants from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

**Malnutrition of mother & child** February 15, 2016 - A Parliamentary Taskforce meeting on SDGs was held of to discuss the National Parliamentary Meet on Malnutrition of mother and child to take all SDGs taskforce

members on board for the (NPMM).

**National Parliamentary Meet on Malnutrition** February 17-18, 2016 - A two days National Parliamentary Meet on Malnutrition (NPMM) was organized having the slogan "leaving no one behind" the gathering had representation from all provinces and development partner organizations.

**The SDGs Secretariat Inauguration** February 17, 2016 - The SDGs secretariat inauguration ceremony was also organized in the evening of NPMM

**Routine Immunization** March 9, 2016 - A meeting was held of Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs with GAVI International's high level mission to Pakistan on "Role of Parliamentarians as Advocates for Routine Immunization (RI) for Children" at Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary services (PIPS), Islamabad.

**April 19, 2016** - A meeting between Convener SDGs Taskforce MNA Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb and Mr. Marc-Andre Franche, Country Director UNDP was held in SDGs Secretariat, Committee Room, National Assembly of Pakistan.

**Natural Resource Management** May 3, 2016 - A Meeting between Convener SDGs Taskforce, MNA Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb, PMU and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the UN was organized regarding a proposed a multi-stakeholder workshop on natural resource management at federal and provincial levels; to identify priority SDGs by federal and provincial Taskforces. The meeting would identify potential collaborations between the Secretariat and partners in specific development

targets. It was suggested that the briefing be held in the pre-budget session (May 2016)

**Communication Strategy for Immunization** May 4, 2016 - A meeting was held between the National SDGs Taskforce Convener, Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb and the UNICEF Pakistan team. During the meeting, the need for formalisation of engagement between UNICEF and the Parliament. A suggestion was made in relation to a need for a holistic communication strategy for immunization and proposed that all major stakeholders must be involved in the process: Parliamentarians/CSOs/Media.

**August 8, 2016** - Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat met with UNDP. SDGs Taskforce Convener, Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb highlighted the need for comparable and authentic data in districts/constituencies and suggested that a database be developed. It was shared that the UNDP's programme on SDGs would integrate a Parliamentary project as a major component to its National SDGs Programme.

**Routine Taskforce Meeting** August 12, 2016 - A Parliamentary SDGs Taskforce meeting was held to brief members on SDGs Members Technical Assistance, SDGs Secretariat work plan and potential partners, SDGs evidence based priority areas, Constituency intervention and Parliamentary business interventions.

**Data Scorecards** August 15, 2016 - A meeting between SDGs Taskforce Convener and SDPI was held during which Dr Abid Qayyum Sulehri, Executive Director of Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad shared that scorecards for

specific constituencies were being prepared. These 35 scorecards were customized for all members of Taskforce for evidence-based prioritization of SDGs.

**Malnutrition in mother & child and early marriages** September 7, 2016 - A Meeting between Speaker of National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and Micronutrient Initiative was held. Mr. Sadiq highlighted that the incumbent Parliament has focused on issues of malnutrition in mother & child and early marriages. He said that the establishment of Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat is a first in any parliament around the world and reflective of the Parliament's political will for development.

**September 8, 2016** - Meeting between SDGs Taskforce Convener Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb and Dr. Zafar Mirza, Convener of Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office(EMRO) WHO, SDGs taskforce took place. Dr. Zafar shared that the establishment of first Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat was a milestone for Pakistan, and that the polymer model would be shared with all 22 members countries of the EMRO Taskforce.

**September 27, 2016** - Meeting between SDGs Taskforce Convener and Oxfam Pakistan Mr. Qazalbash shared that amongst other priority areas, Oxfam was focusing on rural development and humanitarian response in disasters, economic empowerment of women/ women access to basic services in Pakistan. He further shared that Oxfam would support for the SDGs Secretariat in oversight of nutrition, peace & justice, urban planning and related issues.

**Need for co-financing on nutrition** September 30, 2016 - A Meeting between SDGs Taskforce Convener and World Bank. While emphasizing the need for co-financing on nutrition, Mr. Patchamuthu, Country Head, World Bank Pakistan shared that World Bank



could support the SDGs Secretariat in data sharing/scorecards development and social media outreach.

**October 18, 2016** - A meeting between SDGs Task force Convener and Diane Northway, Team Leader, DFID Food Fortification Programme, Mott MacDonald Group was held with the intention to develop coordination with the Parliamentary SDGs secretariat for exploring options and opportunities of joint collaboration and partnership in the area of high level political advocacy at national and provincial level.

**October 22, 2016** - Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS.

### Parliamentary SDGs Taskforce 2016-2017

**Nutrition, Routine Immunization, and Water Sanitation & Hygiene** March 8, 2017 - a Letter of Agreement (LoA) was signed with UNICEF Pakistan to support the

Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat in Nutrition, Routine Immunization, and Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) goals. Under the agreement, UNICEF would ensure the provision of technical assistance and IT support for the Secretariat through multiple interventions.

**SDG 3 (Good Health)** May 17, 2017 - Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) team was invited by the Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat to present an Overview of SDG 3 (Good Health), and Routine Immunization and the Role of Parliamentary oversight and evidence based legislation for goal 3/ Routine Immunization

**Capacity building of parliamentarians** September 14, 2017 - Parliament of Pakistan and LEAD Pakistan signed a Memorandum of Understanding Islamabad on Thursday for technical assistance and capacity building of parliamentarians and staff in connection with Sustainable Development Goals.

**October 10, 2017** - SDGs Taskforce meeting at the National Assembly with UNICEF Pakistan team to discuss the successful use of evaluation in policy making.

## Parliamentary Taskforce meeting on SDG 3 (Good Health) and Routine immunization

### Convener National SDGs Taskforce, Marriyum Aurangzeb credits legislators for improvement in routine immunization programme – Task force meet on Routine immunization

ISLAMABAD May 17, 2017 - Minister of State for Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage Marriyum Aurangzeb, who is also the Convener of the Parliamentary Taskforce on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), said that landmark achievements in anti-polio immunization programme across the country were the outcome of the oversight role of the parliamentarians. While chairing the meeting of the task force, to discuss the overview of SDGs on good health and routine immunization, she said that whenever the members of the task force raised the issues related to health, the Ministry of Health and Planning Commission took immediate remedial measures. Ms. Aurangzeb emphasized the vital role of parliamentarians in improving and strengthening immunization campaign at the constituency level for saving the lives of children. About the milestones achieved in the Punjab, she said that attendance of the vaccinators was being ensured and monitoring of immunization process had been improved and transportation problems of the field staff also had been resolved. She said that immunization process has been reinforced with a technology based surveillance as the vaccination cards issued to the families had a chip which made it impossible for the vaccinators to enter the wrong figures. She said that

Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif was personally monitoring the performance of the field staff. The minister said that the vaccinators who did not take the job seriously had been terminated and on the other hand incentives had been given for good work. Dr Saqlain Gilani from Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI), Pakistan told the committee that



federal health ministry was very active in immunization drive and this could be gauged by the fact that Balochistan had been given Rs 7 billion for the purpose. He said that Punjab immunization programme was being show-cased due to successful

achievement of 89 percent coverage in the province so far. Earlier in another briefing, the meeting was informed that now no area of the country was away from the spotlight and the necessary technical assistance was being extended wherever needed while the attendance of the vaccinators was being marked through smart phone applications.

The MNAs gave their proposals to further improve the immunization drive in all parts of the country. Sheryar Afridi said that the members of the SDGs Taskforce should be invited to attend meetings of the parliamentary committees on Health. He said that Punjab has become a trend-setter in immunization programme which should be appreciated. The meeting was attended by honourable task force members, Ms. Seema Mohiuddin Jameeli, Ms. Farhana Qamar, Ms. Zahra Wahood Fatemi, Ms. Tahira

Aurangzeb, Ms. Romina Khursheed, Mr. Syed Ashiq Hussain Shah, Mr. Malik Uzair Khan, Ms. Mehreen Razaque Bhutto, Mr. Shehryar Afridi, Ms. Munazza Hassan, Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja, Ms. Naeema Kishwar Khan and Ms. Nafeesa Inaytullah Khattak.

## 63rd Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference

### Parliamentarians to work with their respective Governments ensuring a proper gender lens to the SDGs goals for the success of alleviating poverty and woman's empowerment



#### Nafisa Shah

Member of the National Assembly of Pakistan  
Member of the SDGs Taskforce

The Article 25-A ensures free and compulsory education to all, including woman, up to the age of sixteen. It also assures ampler representation of woman in Parliamentary institutions with a reserved quota of 17 percent in all federal and provincial legislatures"- Dr. Nafisa Shah at the commonwealth Parliamentary Association forum

Dhaka, Bangladesh, November 2017- Dr. Nafisa Shah, Member of the National Assembly of Pakistan, who is a leading Parliamentary delegate of



Pakistan and an active member of the SDGs National Taskforce, participated as a discussion leader in one of the workshops on Monday 6th November 2017 at the 63rd Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference from 1-8 November 2017. The Session was moderated by the Hon. Sagufta Yasmin MP, Parliament of Bangladesh-President, Commonwealth Woman Parliamentarians (CWP).

During the workshop, Dr. Shah highlighted the significance of women's participation to ensure achievements of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) especially for alleviating poverty and improving economic well-being of women. She emphasized upon the need for enhanced woman's participation in the policy and decision making bodies.

"Women represent change and are an indicator of overall state of human development anywhere in the world"

"The Parliamentary Women's Caucus at the National Assembly takes active participation in gender sensitive activities. It plays part of a united forum for Women legislators across party lines to work on agreed agenda's around gender-sensitive legislation and parliamentary oversight."

She also highlighted that the Parliament of Pakistan is proud to be

the first parliament in the world to have established its fully functional Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Secretariat and a Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs on National and Provincial level to track progress of the SDGs and conduct informed legislative business in order to ensure achievements of the International development agenda.

"Pakistan has a 17 per cent constitutional quota for women. In addition, political parties confer general seats to women. We are working on Laws that will soon allow every party to nominate a minimum number of women on general seats to contest elections. About 30 percent of the reserved seats should be allocated to women in the Parliaments."

Dr. Shah stressed that South Asian region has been home to the largest number of illiterate women and poor people in addition to a large number of underprivileged masses. She also pointed out the plight of Rohingya people and condemned the violence that the woman and children had been undergoing at the hands of Myanmar government.

"The violence against women has been rampant. There is a need for a joint effort to deal with the shared challenges and confronting issues.

# World Parliamentary Forum on Sustainable Development



**M. Uzair Khan**

Chairman of the Climate Change Standing Committee, Member of the Parliament, Member of the Taskforce of the SDGs Secretariat, National Assembly of Pakistan.

**Bali September 6, 2017** - A 2-day 'Global parliamentary forum on Sustainable Development', organized by The Indonesian House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia had participants attending from around the globe. Mr. Malik Muhammad Uzair Khan, Member of the National SDGs Taskforce, who is also the Chairman of the Climate Change Standing Committee represented Pakistan at the Forum.

This initiative was taken to develop the global SDGs accountability, examine the SDGs progress at the national and international levels and strengthen the role of Parliamentarians in this capacity on a continuous basis. A comprehensive perspectives was also shared with the parliamentarians in terms of implementation of SDGs.

Discussions were based around the following interlinked matters: "Leave no one behind: Promoting Inclusive and Equitable Development", "Ending Violence, Sustaining Peace" and "SDGs and Climate

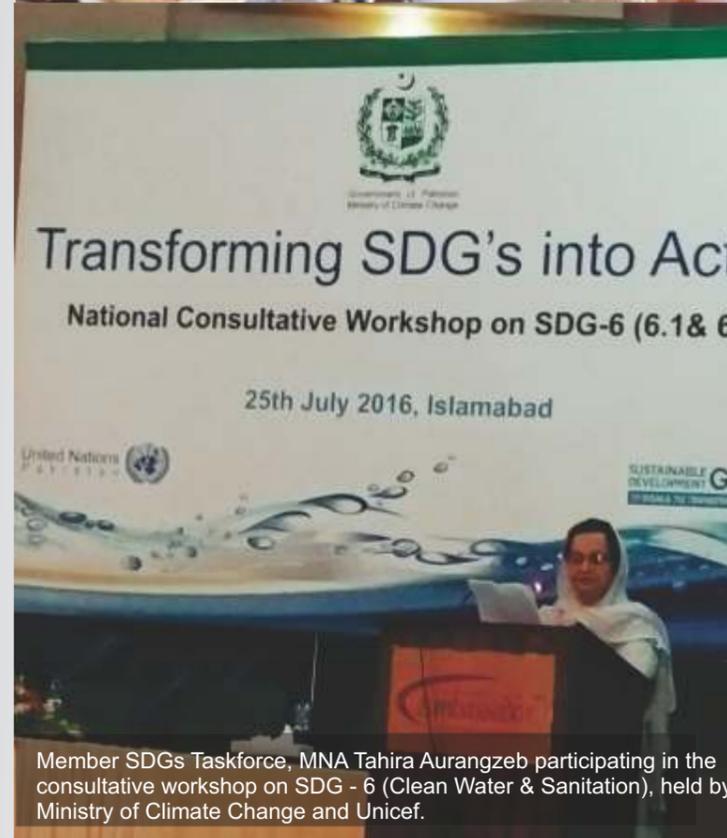
Action".

Mr. Fadli Zon, Deputy Speaker of the Indonesian People's Representative Council explained the importance of peace without which development cannot be possible. The participants exchanged policy analysis, experience, best practices from cross-country and cross-sectors, discussed preparedness and also deepened the understanding of parliaments in each country

Mr. Khan spoke about Pakistan being the first in the world to have a State-of-the-art secretariat dedicated to the Sustainable Development Goals and how the Parliamentarians are actively conducting informed legislative business making use of the data and technical assistance provided by the secretariat. He highlighted that climate change is not only a development concern but a national security challenge. He affirmed that Pakistan abides by the Paris Agreement and deliberate measures will be taken to combat the effects of Climate Change.



Ms Marriyum Aurangzeb, Minister of State for IB&NH addressing National Knowledge Sharing Roundtable on Sustainable Development Goals in Islamabad on November 2, 2017



Member SDGs Taskforce, MNA Tahira Aurangzeb participating in the consultative workshop on SDG - 6 (Clean Water & Sanitation), held by Ministry of Climate Change and Unicef.



August 12, 2016 - Taskforce meeting to discuss work plan and strategies for effective oversight and legislation



Convener SDGs Taskforce presenting on the 1st SAARC Young Parliamentarians Conference on Peace and Harmony for Development (SYPC) Islamabad.





September 29, 2016. The Taskforce meets to discuss SDG 3 (Good Health) and SDG 4 (Quality Education).



Convener Parliamentary SDGs Taskforce Marriyum Aurangzeb chairing a meeting at the National Assembly with the Strategic Monitoring Unit (SMU) team from Lahore.



Quarterly meet with partners to discuss way forward for the achievement of SDGs targets and how to make it a part of legislative business.



October 10, 2017 - Taskforce Meeting to discuss the successful use of evaluations in policy making

## UNDP commits to SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Investment in infrastructure and innovation are crucial drivers of economic growth and development. Following this take UNDP Pakistan came forward to partner with the National Assembly of Pakistan to build the Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat, inaugurated in 2016 by the speaker National Assembly of Pakistan, Mr. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq.

UNDP is working with the Government of Pakistan and now with the Parliament to help find solutions to persistent development challenges. Through this Secretariat it has built a lasting institutional capacity that delivers technical expertise to parliamentarians for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Sustainable Development Goals through their legislative business and constituency actions which ultimately links the people of Pakistan to innovative global solutions for development related problems.

## UNICEF Pakistan for informed legislative business

UNICEF Pakistan, established in 1948 aspires to provide every child with the right to survive entailing right to Health, Education, Drinking Water, Sanitation and protection from abuse and exploitation.

The streamlined targets of both partners continue to engage the parliamentarians and deliver on the Prime Minister's commitment to accomplish the SDGs in Pakistan. Parliamentarians have easy access to updated information at the ICT Lounge Installed with State-of-the-art technology which has been a contribution of UNICEF towards informed

Parliamentary business. Quarterly meet-ups track performance through Gap Analysis and action plans. Task force members are constantly engaged in knowledge sharing events where pertinent debate and extensive suggestions shapes the spot-on determination towards SDGs targets.

The partnership also engages with government at federal and provincial levels, donors like GAVI - The Vaccine Alliance, civil society partners, research institutes and private organizations to form a robust database and communication network. As a result, the strengthened Parliamentary oversight on SDGs and enhanced accountability of the development targets guarantees effective evidence- based policy making.

Currently working around nutrition, routine immunization, water and sanitation, quality education, child protection and Monitoring and Evaluation, amongst others the Parliamentarians and UNICEF Pakistan intend to comprise other SDGs in the years to come.

## MOU of cooperation with UNAIDS for prevention against HIV, signed at Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS)

ISLAMABAD October 21 , 2016 - The Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat and PIPS signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Agreement with United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), in guidance of Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb, Convener,

National SDGs Taskforce, Mr. Zafarullah Khan, Executive Director, PIPS and Dr. Mamadou L. Sakho Country Director, UNAIDS. Country Office for Pakistan and Afghanistan signed the MoU on the behalf of the two organizations.

The MoU covers the following areas of cooperation:-

1. National Awareness of public about the commitment of States in the response to HIV at national and international level: PIPS and UNAIDS/Pakistan, in guidance of Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb shall collaborate in taking their defence to political authorities at the national and international levels so as to ensure that the response to HIV remains a priority for Pakistan
2. Creation of a protective legislative and legal environment propitious for an effective response to HIV: PIPS in close mentorship of Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat and UNAIDS Pakistan shall collaborate notably in the elaboration of legislative measures related to HIV with a view to ensuring that legislation relating to HIV/AIDS in Pakistan should respect human rights and ensure the protection of and access to services by those who are vulnerable and most exposed to the risk of HIV infection.
3. Information for Parliamentarians on HIV and their role in the response to the pandemic: PIPS and UNAIDS shall collaborate with a view to furnishing parliamentarians with all the necessary information on HIV, its methods of transmission, prevention, health care of patients as well as any other question on HIV/AIDS. This information shall aim at reinforcing effective mobilization, building capacities of Parliamentarians and their real involvement in all questions relating to HIV/AIDS; the search for solutions to specific problems related to HIV including but not limited to

urging for appropriate allocations at national and provincial (state) levels.

Dr. Mamadou L. Sakho Country Director, UNAIDS, expressed his pleasure and satisfaction that both PIPS and UNAIDS team has worked hard to make the MoU a reality, Mr Muhammad Rashid Mafzool Zaka, PIPS Director Research and Ms Fehmida Khan, Advisor Monitoring UNAIDS have been nominated as focal person to implement the MoU between Parliament's SDGs Taskforce, PIPS and the UNAIDS, Pakistan aimed at prevention against HIV aids in the country.

While speaking on the occasion Ms, Marriyum Aurangzeb, National Convener, Parliamentary Sustainable Development Goals highlighted the importance of parliamentary oversight as key to advocacy of public's basic health and education rights. She reiterated the strong and unflinching resolve that National Parliament will leave no stone unturned to take up the issues of people-centric development agenda at improving the service delivery of government through parliamentary tools of committee system, calling attention notices as well as undertaking fresh legislations. She also informed that PIPS has set up its provincial assembly resource centres that provide secretariats to SDGs provincial Parliamentary task forces, which will prove as catalyst to enhance the oversight of Executive on delivery of each aspect of human development such as universal immunization, clean drinking water and sanitation, prevention from epidemics and HIV Aids and other deadly diseases such as thalassemia. She expressed the hope that through the functions of representative, lawmaking, oversight and budget review, Members of Parliament can play a decisive role in achieving human development targets for Pakistan.



## 'From National to Subai' EU extends hand for effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD March 15, 2017 - European Union's Technical support and Human Resource, to the Parliamentary SDGs secretariat was a major stride directed towards the institutionalization of this secretariat which then became the platform for the Taskforce members to obtain data and technical assistance for informed policy making and oversight. On completion of this project EU initiated a high-level launch of the 3-year EU-funded Subai-Pakistan Project, hosted by the Ambassador of the European Union to Pakistan, H.E. Jean-François Cautain.

Providing a wide-ranging of support services to the Provincial and Legislative Assemblies, Subai aims to strengthen the institutions, provide support for elected representatives and selected committees, secretariats, and help improve the transparency and accessibility of the Provincial Assemblies.

The Speaker, Sindh Assembly, Agha Siraj Durrani appreciated EU for supporting the provincial assemblies in their capacity building project at the launch ceremony.

"Democracy is not a product but a process", he said while highlighting the historical importance of the Sindh Assembly for being the place where our great leader Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah took oath as Governor General of Pakistan. The Speaker Balochistan Assembly Ms. Raheela Durrani also commended the initiative. "The project will help

strengthen the democratic process which started in 2008 elections." Said Ms. Durrani. She also proposed that secretariat staff of the assemblies needs to be equipped with desired skills.

The Speaker Khyber pakhtunkhwa Assembly Mr. Asad Qaiser said that the project will help to improve the legislation process in the country, Followed by the Speaker Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Mr. Shah Ghulam Qadir who asserted that the AJK's parliamentary democratic process started in 1970 and its legislative assemblies survived tech marital laws. He thanked Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif for giving Rs. 3 billion construction grant for the new building of the AJK Legislative Assembly which had been damaged in the earthquake that struck the country in 2005.

Also present at the ceremony, Speaker Gilgit Baltistan Assembly Mr. Fida Muhamamd Nisar appreciated the efforts of EU. "This capacity building project will most definitely benefit the members of the provincial assemblies and their staff".

The EU ambassador and the speakers of all provincial assemblies signed a pledge stating that The EU and provincial assemblies will be working together to strengthen democracy in Pakistan.

([https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/pakistan/22718/eu-launches-subai-pakistan-project-strengthen-provincial-assemblies\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/pakistan/22718/eu-launches-subai-pakistan-project-strengthen-provincial-assemblies_en))

## LEAD Pakistan – SDGs think-tank for the Parliamentarians

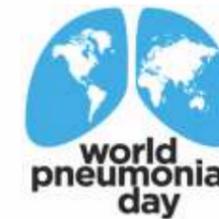
Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD) Pakistan, is a national think tank, working for sustainable development across diverse sectors. It employs policy research, learning and knowledge management, technical assistance and public policy engagement in the design and implementation of development projects and initiatives. LEAD is also hosting a Knowledge Hub on SDGs since the adoption in 2015 and signed an agreement with the SDGs Secretariat in September 2017 with the intention of empowering the parliamentarians with knowledge, data, learning and soft skills through various programs.

Under the Letter of agreement LEAD Pakistan committed to assist the SDGs secretariat and Taskforce members with data, research and training programs in line with their internationally recognized 'cohort model'. Faculty, experts and professionals will also be provided as facilitators in seminars and training programmes hosted by the secretariat.

Lead Pakistan is also working with the SDGs Secretariat on Evidence Based Research and Legislative Support. They will be developing data-driven scorecards and factsheets on selected priority SDGs and targets identified by the Secretariat members. They will also provide research, authentic and credible data analysis for parliamentary business, including calling attention notices, questions, motions, etc.

## Why Pakistan is unable to reach the "fifth" child

Huma Khawar  
GAVI Representative



The month of November is dedicated to awareness around Pneumonia as 12 November marks the World Pneumonia Day. This year's theme " Stop Pneumonia: Invest in Child Health," making the case that we must invest in pneumonia prevention, treatment, and innovation to promote child health.

Pakistan has some of the highest rates of death among children in the world. Sadly, one child in every 11 (87 per 1000 live births) born in Pakistan dies before turning 5 years.

A major reason is limited routine immunization coverage – a little more than 50 percent of children are covered nationally, and the numbers of children immunized vary from province to province. As a result, pneumococcal vaccine faces challenges reaching children across the whole country

Pneumococcal disease, caused by the bacterium *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, kills more than half a million children under the age of five every year — more than malaria, AIDS and measles combined. More than 70 percent of the deaths are in developing countries.

"Pneumonia, is still one of the major killers of children under five in Pakistan. The vaccine, PCV 10 introduced in government's Immunization Programme in 2012 is available free of cost, but the coverage rates are still very low, Dr Saqlain Ahmed Gilani, Programme Manager Expanded Programme. Federal Expanded Programme on Immunization. If administered, pneumococcal vaccine (PCV 10) has the potential to save many thousands of lives, drastically reducing Pakistan's under-five mortality rate.



Pneumonia and diarrhoea are so common that many people and organizations fail to recognize the need to step up efforts and identify creative solutions to fight them. Although most cases are easily prevented and treated, they often prove deadly when families cannot access basic health services such as vaccines and antibiotic treatment.

Routine Immunization, exclusive breastfeeding, access to care and use of antibiotics, oral rehydration solution and zinc to treat the illnesses. These measures are known to prevent childhood deaths due to pneumonia and diarrhoea and could help achieve the United Nations' Sustainable Development target goal of reducing under-five mortality to at least 25 per 1,000 live births by 2030.

In 2016, pneumonia and diarrhoea were responsible for one of every four deaths in children under 5 years of age. Figures released by United Nations earlier this month show that progress against these illnesses has been stubbornly slow, despite these deaths being largely preventable with strategic investments in interventions such as vaccines, antibiotics, oxygen, breast feeding and hand washing.

Released in November to mark the World Pneumonia Day Pneumonia and Diarrhoea Progress Report: Driving Progress through Equitable Investment and Action sheds some light on the factors slowing progress against the world's two biggest killers of young children.

Issued by the International Vaccine Access Center at Johns Hopkins

Bloomberg School of Public Health, the report provides an update on efforts to prevent and treat pneumonia and diarrhoea in the most heavily burdened countries. In the report, IVAC identifies the 15 countries with the greatest number of deaths from pneumonia and diarrhoea among children under 5 years of age. Pakistan is one of these 15 countries.

Although the vaccines are available for the entire cohort of Pakistani children, delivered through a partnership between the Pakistan government and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. kids are still dying from pneumonia. By choosing to work with Gavi, through co-financing (paying a proportion of the cost of each dose of PCV) and vaccinate millions of its children pneumococcal disease, Pakistan is making an investment in its future.

Although the high season is winter, Pneumonia takes its toll, especially in the northern areas of Pakistan but it is a problem all year round. "Malnutrition, low birth weight, and non-exclusive breastfeeding put children at greater risk for pneumococcal disease," said Dr DS Akram, Pediatrician calling it a double jeopardy for those babies that are living in overcrowded places where (indoor) pollution levels are high and sanitation is poor.

Experts feel that even though the rates of child death have been falling steadily over the years, however, progress has been slow. The age group most vulnerable to complications and high mortality due to are infants and children under 2 years of age.

Health advocates say it is an opportunity for Pakistan to focus on an illness that kills hundreds of thousands of its citizens – many of them children and the elderly – each year. Building the value of vaccine at national and provincial levels amongst key stakeholders is vital that can help ensure prioritization and appropriate resourcing of routine immunization programs.

# National Roundtable conference on the SDGs 2017

Islamabad 2 November 2017 – A 2 day National Roundtable Conference to discuss the initiative, progress and challenges of the Sustainable Development Goals was held in Islamabad, Pakistan

The conference was collaboratively hosted by The Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat, National Assembly of Pakistan and Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services, chaired by the Minister of State for Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage, Marriyum Aurangzeb who is also the chairperson of the SDGs Secretariat at the National Assembly of Pakistan and convener of the National SDGs Taskforce Members.

The conference was graced by the Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Rahila Hameed Durrani, Speaker Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly and convener of the SDGs taskforce Gilgit-Baltistan Fida Muhammad Nashad, Convener of the taskforce Punjab, Ms. Azma Bukhari, Convener of the Taskforce Khyber Pukhtunkhwa, Ms. Anisa Zeb Tahir, members of provincial assembly Taskforces from Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan, Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Kashmir. This conference united 50 participants including 25 Honorable Members of the Parliamentary SDGs Taskforce, members from provincial and legislative assemblies, and 30 dignitaries from the fields of human rights, economics, health, education and population.

The discussions aimed to apprise the

participants throughout Pakistan about the potential and responsibility of the Parliamentarians to become the custodians of SDGs and to have oversight on development indicators across the country to initiate informed legislative business.

Discussions were based around the challenges and opportunities faced by



the leaders to achieve the SDGs in provinces by 2030. It was also agreed that this conference would advance this agenda and organize a National Population Meet in Islamabad in fall 2017.

Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb focused on the perspective and approach of the parliament, and the positive implications on sustainable development issues such as Food security, early learning, childcare, gender inequities, urban planning, water management and infrastructure

**Speaker Gilgit Baltistan Assembly Fida Muhammad Nashad**



*The 5-member SDG Task Force is very active in GB. Gilgit Baltistan focuses on the education and health sector and it has planned to have a high school in every union council.*

**Speaker Balochistan Assembly Rahila Durrani**



*The Provincial Task Force in Balochistan for SDGs was playing its role of a guardian on the ongoing projects related to SDGs. 20 out of 65 members of the provincial Assembly are part of the SDG task force who are trained about the objectives of the SDGs.*

**Punjab SDGs Task Force convener Azma Bukhari**



*The provincial task force has been playing its role of oversight very effectively. PTV should hold debates and programmes for creation of awareness on the SDGs related matters.*

**Executive Director PIPS Zafarullah Khan**



*The development and progress of the country was linked with parliamentary debates and legislation*



in Pakistan. UNICEF Pakistan country representative, Ms. Christian Munduate, discussed 'Population related health, education and WASH deprivations affecting children' and stressed upon the importance of 'Not leaving anyone behind' in the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the SDGs.

Mr. Ali Kamal, Economic Advisor SDGs Planning Commission highlighted the importance of data in the progress and Implementation of SDGs in Pakistan for informed policy making and oversight.

Ms. Seemin Ashfaq, Director Communications, Population Council and Ms. Mehnaz Akber Ali, President PARWAAN, a women-led social development initiatives in Pakistan talked about "Early Childhood Care

and Education" and "Population Challenge and Policy Options for Pakistan," respectively.

The meeting agreed that the key to success is to engage every province with maximum support and contribution at the National Level for the better measurement of sustainable development. As suggested by Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb, Special sessions would be held

with respect to each province and other federating units in the upcoming Population conference in which they would be free to prepare their own agenda according to the needs and challenges of their province and the federation would fully cooperate with them in this regard.

The roundtable was the first National

Parliamentary discussion on SDGs and it was concluded that continued dialogue is needed amongst provinces to increase awareness on the importance of the SDGs. The chairperson of the conference Honorable MOS IB&NH Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb closed the session referring to the National Population Conference to be held in fall 2017. Participants expressed their interest in continuing the dialogue.



## POPULATION FOR DEVELOPMENT



**Sardar Ayaz Sadiq**  
Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan

*"There is a need to start a national discourse on the very important issue of population growth and its impact on the indicators of development"*

Since the past 22 years accurate data on population has been missing and all planning was based on assumptions. Now that figures of recently held census have arrived, it is high time for soul searching and future planning. Holding census was indeed a landmark achievement of the

present government and these alarming figures for the Population of Pakistan need to be addressed at priority.

Parliamentarians will host the first-ever National Parliamentary Conference on 'Population for



Development' in the coming weeks, for deliberation and future planning on the challenges related to population, in the backdrop of recently held census.

Population's impact on the Development indicators cannot be ignored. Food security, Health, Education, Planning and urban development, the economy as a whole will suffer if not proactively managed. Hence we can say that Population is a resource if not catered to sensibly can become a menace to the economic and peace situation of Pakistan.



FROM THE PROVINCIAL TF

The task forces have a huge responsibility in this conference. For example, Pakistan's urban population exhibits a rapid increase but no urban policy has been adopted so far. Therefore the recommendations of this National conference will prove useful in formulating future policies to manage the rise in population that has an impact on social sector planning of the government. Parliamentarian's active role will be considered to combat challenges of population.

Representatives of religious parties in the parliament will also be invited in the conference to harness the effort and to utilize the services of the religious scholars to overcome gaps.

Realization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) require collective efforts that have already started to arise at federal and provincial levels. Steps are being taken to improve health and education sectors.

Members of the parliament are also playing their role in this connection. There was hardly any debate of the problems related to SDGs in the past sessions of the National and Provincial Assemblies. However, during the last two years, the members of Parliament have been touching the Health and Education issues in their budgetary speeches accredited to the SDGs Secretariat.

ROLE OF PROVINCIAL SDGs TASKFORCES



Punjab Provincial SDGs Taskforce members participate in the dialogue on "Role of Parliamentarians as Advocates for Routine Immunization (RI) for Children" - August 2016.

On 8th April, 2010, The 18th Constitutional Amendment was passed in the National Assembly of Pakistan. This devolution of power made provincial autonomy and empowerment possible and gave all Provincial Assemblies ownership of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. All apparatus of Government such as education, health, climate change and the development sector went from being federal mandate to the independent provinces. Provincial SDGs Task forces are now functioning in all Provincial Assemblies including Gilgit Baltistan (GB) and Azad Jammu Kashmir (AJK).

Therefore Federal and Provincial Task Forces on SDGs are convened in the respective legislatures, to address the challenges in the post-18th amendment scenario and to strengthen the legislative, oversight, and representation at role of the Federal and Provincial Legislature.

It is therefore critically important for the provincial legislatures to play a proactive role in accelerating the pace in achieving the agreed and committed targets for post 2015 development agenda.

Provincial Taskforce - TOR's

The SDGs fall under direct administrative and legislative control of the Provinces.

1. Promote discussion through provincial assemblies debates and questions to

obtain information, raise awareness to hold provincial governments to account and to draw attention to the post 2015 debate

2. Conduct committee hearings that investigate provincial priorities in greater depth and that give opportunities to hear testimony from independent experts and civil society representatives.

3. Convene constituency meetings and public forums to establish dialogue with members of the public to inform them of the issues and ensure that their voices are heard.

4. Engage with local and relevant authorities, civil society organizations, media and the private sector by sharing information and supporting their participation in decision making.

5. Provide representation to all sectors of society by ensuring that citizens, different stakeholders and civil society groups have a voice at the national level and are able to participate in the decision making process.

6. Influence the formulation of the new development goals by engaging with the intergovernmental negotiations and policy discussion at provincial levels

7. Introduce, scrutinize and review legislation

In preparation for the SDGs, the federal government has demonstrated its commitment by organizing a series of seminars, workshops and high



Introductory Taskforce Meeting on SDGs, at Punjab Assembly, February 2, 2017



National Consultation on SDGs

LAHORE April 12, 2017 - A National consultation on SDGs was organized by Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) in collaboration with United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) Pakistan and Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) for the Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs from Provincial Assembly of Punjab. Representatives from UNICEF were also present at the event. The meeting began with the opening remarks and appreciation from the Honorable Taskforce convener followed by the awareness and discussion of the following areas:

- Importance of Prioritization in SDGs
- SDGs in Local Context
- Sociopolitical Indicators
- Failure of MDGs
- Role of Parliamentarians

For the first time development partners, Provincial Taskforce

Members and the civil society gathered at a platform in Punjab to have a holistic perspective on SDGs, prioritization of the agenda and its localization.

UNDP identified goals 1-6 (poverty, hunger, health, gender equality, Education, Clean water and sanitation) to be at priority in Punjab while keeping other goals also relevant

Mr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director of Sustainable Development Policy Institute, presented his work on prevailing development conditions and indicators in Pakistan. He expressed the seven "F" issues faced by Pakistan: Fuel, Fiscal, Fertility, Food, Frontiers, Functional Democracy, Fragility of climate and proposed way forward in order to combat these challenges.

Members from the Planning commission explained with real examples the initiatives taken by the Provincial Government to achieve targets at district level. The Provincial government has established Chief Minister's Taskforce, Parliamentary Taskforce at provincial level, and special unit at Planning and Development Department of Punjab to accomplish the SDGs targets. Officials and other stakeholders of Punjab districts are also working on localization of SDGs in context of their districts.

The meeting proved to be fruitful as substantial recommendations were proposed by the participants which included ownership of the SDGs targets, their localization, and informed oversight by the Parliamentarians, Budget allocation and tracking.



**Taskforce Meeting to discuss the division and allocation of the SDGs budget. May 4, 2017**



**SDGS TASKFORCE PUNJAB - CITIZEN FORUM REPRESENTATIVES MEETING ON HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY**



**LAHORE October 19, 2017-** A roundtable meeting on Health Service Delivery was organized by Palladium in collaboration with Punjab Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs. Present at the meeting, were members of the Provincial Assembly of Punjab, officials from Palladium (EVA-BHN), representatives from the civil society and Pakistan Institute of Parliamentary services. Honorable Convener, Punjab Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs, Azma Zahid Bukhari commenced the

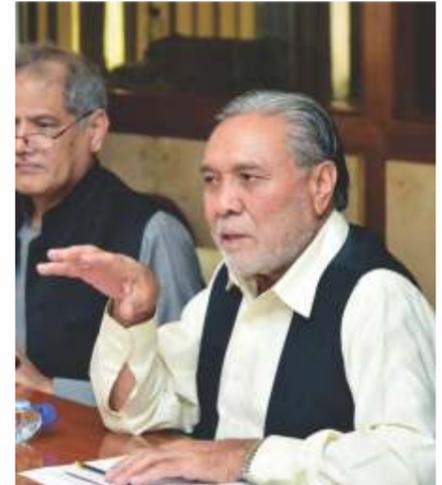
meeting with her opening remarks, followed by an elaborative presentation on, Empowerment, Voice and Accountability for Better Health and Nutrition (EVA-BHN delivered by the Advocacy Manager, Mr. Ehtisam. EVA-BHN framework was presented to all the participants and discussions based around the usage of this framework and initial steps required to train the community group at every Basic Health Unit (BHU) and ways to address challenges. Using the Data baseline of five cities of Punjab (Lahore, Sahiwal, Layah, B h a k k a r , and Muzaffargarh) plenary discussion sessions were held to highlight experiences with EVA-BHN, regional issues and requirements to structure

the way forward. The outcomes of the meeting highlighted the need of smooth supply of Equipment and Medicine, customized regional Infrastructure and the importance of ensuring Water, Hygiene, Sanitation standard at all Health facilities.

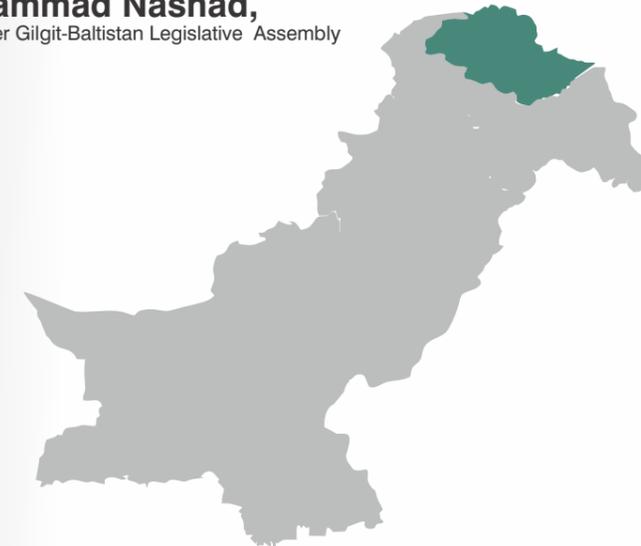


**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs) IN GILGIT-BALTISTAN (GB) PERSPECTIVE**

Realising the importance of these goals, the Parliament of Pakistan has taken the first ever parliamentary initiative on SDGs by establishing a Parliamentary Taskforce on Sustainable Development Goals. This Taskforce is being led by the Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb, Honorable Minister of State for Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage.



**Fida Muhammad Nashad,**  
Honorable Speaker Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative Assembly



The Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), due to its geostrategic location and natural resources, has a unique and critical role to play in the sustainable development of Pakistan. It borders Azad Kashmir to the south, the

province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to the west, the Wakhan Corridor of Afghanistan to the north, the Xinjiang region of China, to the east and northeast, and the Indian-

administered state of Jammu and Kashmir to the southeast. The geographical area of GB is relatively small, but it serves as a vital catchment for the Indus River, upon which a majority of Pakistan's irrigated agriculture and hydroelectricity depends. The GB also contains the nation's most important natural forests, extensive mineral reserves, and a wealth of biodiversity. Dramatic scenery, some of the world's highest mountains and a rich cultural and archaeological heritage make the GB one of the most visited tourist destinations in the country. The recent day's game changer project, the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) first meets GB at Khunjarab and passes through various districts of GB before entering into Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In order to capitalize upon natural resources of GB, to make the mega development project (CPEC) a success, to attract more and more foreign and domestic tourist to GB and to shift the country on green energy by utilizing the 9500 feet height Indus water to generate hydroelectricity, it is imperative to make intervention from the highest level. The areas which need immediate



FROM THE PROVINCIAL TF

attention and call for action at national and local level so to ensure achievement of SDGs in GB with implications at national level are given as follows:

Goals 1 & 2: (No Poverty, Zero Hunger)

Agriculture is one of the major sources of economy and food in GB. Wheat, Maize, Pulses, Vegetables, various types of fruits are grown in the region. Apples, Cherries, dry fruits and potatoes are now a great source of trade. Interlinked with agriculture, livestock is another important source of milk, butter, and meat. Innovation and modernization in both the agriculture and livestock is needed to increase yield and productivity. In this context, the relevant parliamentary committees will be sensitized to monitor by setting short-term and long-term goals for both the departments of Agriculture and Livestock. A system of responsibility and accountability in both the departments needs to be evolved so as to ensure the people of GB may get maximum benefit in terms of enhance agriculture and livestock output. Furthermore, there is availability of barren land in GB which may be brought under cultivation by channelizing the available water resources. In this context resource allocation is required both at the provincial ADB and Federal PSDP.

Goal 3: (Good Health and Well-Being) Various initiatives have already been taken by the GB government to upgrade and modernize the available health facilities in GB. However, due to growing population, the facilities are insufficient to appropriately deal the patients due to which most patients travel to Islamabad/Rawalpindi or other cities. Establishment of more hospitals and dispensaries with qualified staff and equipment are required. This will be taken care of at provincial level with support from Federal Level. In order to have a

balanced population, the family management needs due attention. Trained Family Health Workers needs to be recruited and deployed at community level or the capacity of existing Lady Health Visitors (LHVs) by imparting further necessary training may be enhanced so as to ensure adequate size of every family. Awareness through publications and other means needs to be enhanced. The religious aspect of family planning must be covered in the publications. Family planning kit containing necessary literature and pills needs to be distributed at households through health workers/visitors. All the hospitals need to establish a Family Planning Unit.

Goals 4 & 5: (Quality Education, Gender Equality)

Government Schools for boys from primary to secondary and higher secondary level are adequately available in all districts of GB, however, there is dearth of girls' school. In order to achieve the goal of gender equality, the half of the population needs establishment of separate girls' schools from primary to higher secondary as coeducation is not encouraged in GB. Separate Women University in lines with the Fatima Jinnah Women University in Rawalpindi needs to be established in GB. In order to improve the quality of education particularly in government schools it is recommended that:

Transparent and merit based appointment/selection of teaching and non-teaching staff must be ensured. The sitting GB government has been able in selecting teachers by involving third party (National Testing Service). The parliamentary committee will be requested for review of existing rules governing appointment/selection and to submit recommendations for further improvements in the rules. There must not be any compromise to take stern disciplinary action against the violators, if any wrong doing pointed

out.

It is recommended the Taskforce will ensure that every public representative, be an MLA or District Council Member or Chairman Union Council, must adopt and patronage at least one school in his/her constituency. Frequent visit to school, meeting with teachers, students and community to discuss the educational or administrative matters of school including enrolment, teachers training, school result, availability of teachers etc. I am sure this step will multiply the enrolment as well as quality of education.

Goals 6: (Clean Water & Sanitation)

At present there is no developed sanitation system even in the major cities of Gilgit-Baltistan including the capital city Gilgit. For the development of Gilgit city, Gigit Development Authority (GDA) has been established. Parliamentary Taskforce will ensure through committees that the sanitation of the City may be developed on war footing basis. It is recommended that such development authorities may also be established for the development of other major cities.

Goals 7: (Affordable and Clean Energy)

Gilgit-Baltistan, being rich in water resources, can offer the opportunity to produce affordable and clean energy. The Indus River with height of 9500 feet from sea level enters into Baltistan region of GB and at downstream near to Chillas the height falls to 4000 feet. So there are various places where large and small dams can be constructed which eventually will be helpful to mitigate the energy need of the country and the barren land may be brought under cultivation. As per feasibility reports, there is potential of 40,000MW hydropower generation. The identified mega projects includes Basha-Diamer Dam (4500 MW), Raikot (670 MW), Bunji

(7100 MW), Yulbo (3000 MW), Tungus (2100 MW), Skardu (2500 MW), Thorgo Pari (2500 MW), Yogu (520 MW), Sher Qila (250 MW) and Narthang Skardu (100 MW) to be constructed on River Indus and its Tributaries. Across the party political support and national resolve are required to get these mega projects transformed into reality.

Goals 8 & 9: (Decent Work and Economic Growth, Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure)

Gilgit-Baltistan is a paradise for domestic and foreign tourists due to its beautiful landscape, the scenic valleys, biological diversity, clean water lakes, mighty peaks, glaciers, rivers, diverse cultural heritage and hospitality. The mountaineers, trekkers and anglers find all the desired variety in GB as three mightiest mountain ranges: the Karakoram, the Hindukach and the Himalayas – meet here. Five out of the fourteen mountain peaks with height of over 8000 meters including the K-2 (world's second highest peak) and some of the largest glaciers outside Polar Regions are located in Gilgit Baltistan.

The number of tourists visiting GB is increasing over the years. In recent years, a large number (roughly estimate of 7 lac in 2016 and 1 million in 2017) of tourists have visited GB. Due to increase number of tourist's economic wheel of the region speeded up. To capitalize on the opportunity and to enhance the economic growth, this sector may further be strengthened by improving roads, infrastructure, by providing soft loans to youth for establishments of hotels and restaurants, transportation and other ancillary requirements.

The mineral reservoirs of GB are the other major untapped or underutilized resources which can not only help economic well-being of people of GB but can also significantly contribute in



the GDP of the country and be a source to strengthen foreign exchange reserves. This area is rich in precious gemstone like ruby, Emerald, Aquamarine, Quarts, Topaz, Tourmaline, Epidote, Rezolite, Tanzanite, Fluorite, and many others. Apart from this there is a variety of marbles and granite. The sand along the rivers contains gold which is washed by using traditional methods. If modern techniques are applied and the local population is supported technically and financially, this sector may brought an economic revolution.

Goal 12: (Responsible Consumption and Production)

It is dire need of the hour to create awareness among masses to adopt responsible consumption and production patterns. The educational institutions, TV Channels, the political leadership, the religious scholars and the civil society may play an effective role to mobilize the communities to avoid wastage of resource i.e. unnecessary wastage of water by keeping the tap on, the electricity by keeping unnecessary lights switched on, cooking or ordering more than required foods etc.

Goals 13 & 14: (Climate Action, Life below Water)

There are very long river banks available in GB to be used for growing forests which will not only beautify the area but also mitigate the effects of floods. Furthermore, there is great need to protect the exiting forests and trees from cutting by providing alternate energy to be used for cooking and heating purposes. The Taskforce will sensitize the local government for taking appropriate action in this regard.

The below water species especially the rare trout fish is a brand of GB. Its conservation, growth, and commercialization will add value of the region. Fishing and sale of fish will be source of revenue for GB. Technical

and financial support in terms of soft loan if given will help to boost up this sector.

Goal 16: (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions)

Rule of Law, observing merit in every case so as to ensure right person/thing at right place, provision of immediate relief/punishment, will ensure peace, justice and strong institutions. In our educational syllabus especially of pre-primary, due weightage should be given to teach values and character building.

All the government departments should prepare Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and timely revised the Sop's to accommodate the changing needs. There must clearly be defined the roles and responsibilities of the officials. The SOPs must be followed in letter and spirit.

Community mobilization, through Reforms Committee or Muallah Committee for eradication of social evils or criminal acts, may help to maintain a peaceful society.

Conclusion:

All the identified 17 SDGs in true sense should be the agenda of all the political parties and every politician. I am sure that both the humanity and the Planet will flourish if the goals and all identified targets are achieved in stipulated time. Now, being political leaders of this beautiful land, it is our responsibility to extend every possible contribution to make our people and the beloved country more prosperous, safe, and beautiful.



## NA 14 (Kohat) – A success story for POLIO ERADICATION

Kohat is a district of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan comprising diverse multiethnic population. It is placed in tier 2 group as per National EOC ranking. The majority population lives in rural and sub urban communities. These communities include families coming directly from FATA or have roots in FATA.



Mr. Shehryar Afridi  
Member National Assembly  
Member SDGs Taskforce,  
Pakistan.

Kohat has a target population of 193718 for Polio vaccination under 5 years. The last Polio confirmed case was reported from UC Dhoda where the father of the child, a religious scholar, had been a declared refusal. The eye opening Polio case was a setback for the entire Polio eradication Initiative (PEI) team which was then reorganized by the district administration as a result. A number of prominent reasons were highlighted by the PEI team that was facing similar problems with almost all the Union councils.

The IDPS crisis after insurgency in the FATA region led to an influx of families from Kurram, Khyber and Orakzai agencies. This influx of unvaccinated children created an immunity gap within the host families of the district and also led to the development of negative perception against the Polio vaccination. Existence of Afghan refugee camps within the Kohat district with a total population of 14342 under the age of 5 had an impact on the polio situation of the district. Religious refusals in the community was one of the major challenges faced by the PEI team which needed to be addressed wisely. The Frequent movement of high risk mobile population (HRMP) remained a problem for the Polio program; as Kohat is a gateway for the southern districts of KPK, high numbers of HRMP population have settled in the district and have a high rate of unvaccinated population.

Weak vaccination teams and low female involvement were other important factors that contributed to the challenging

situation. Furthermore, Kohat is a widespread district and many areas remain unmonitored which leads to the prevalence of unnoticed cases.

Mr. Shehryar Afridi, MNA from Kohat who is also an active Member of the SDGs Taskforce took charge of the situation in his constituency and gathered all stakeholders as a team, to combat the Polio menace in Kohat. A joint strategy called DPCR was formed that was led by Deputy Commissioner Mr. Khalid Ellias to implement the National Emergency Action Plan (NEAP) for polio eradication in true spirit and rid Kohat of Polio forever.

Under this strategy Kohat was divided into different tiers keeping the most problematic areas first in list and assigning most responsible agents accordingly. Effective management and hard work ensured steps for eradication were synchronized and implemented.

The education and the health department played a major role in providing female teachers and LHWs for the national cause; this added numbers to the female involvement indicators. Development partners supported with Human resource and technical assistance for monitoring

and evaluation of the areas. They also assisted to strengthen the AFP Surveillance system in order to ensure no suspect goes unnoticed. Clusters of refusals were also identified. Political figures, Islamic scholars, students from the universities and colleges and civil society members were brought together to generate awareness and motivation amongst the masses which brought down the refusal rate drastically.

This strategy proved successful and the



situation was soon under control. Since the last three years Kohat has been a Polio free land and the credit goes to the determination and untiring efforts of the entire Kohat team under the leadership of Mr. Afridi and Mr. Ellias who fulfilled their responsibilities towards Development of the people and set a remarkable example for every leader of Khyber Pukhtunkhwa and Pakistan.



### PAKISTAN FACTSHEET 2017

## Demand Generation for Routine Immunization

KEY FACTS

Only 22% of caretakers were fully aware of the vaccination schedule.

67% of caregivers trust doctors and LHWs as a reliable source of information about immunization.

Spontaneous awareness of Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPDs) among LHWs is less than 50% for all diseases.

95% of caregivers believed that vaccinations prevent diseases.

*"We trust the doctors and lady health workers of our area and consult them regarding child health"*  
(Mother - Lahore, Punjab)

### INDICATORS FOR DEMAND GENERATION ON ROUTINE IMMUNIZATION (RI)

National Communication Strategy	2012	2014	2015-17
Provincial Communication Strategies and Action Plans	✗	✗	✓
KAP Study conducted routine immunization	✗	✗	✓
Government funds allocated for demand generation	✗	✗	✓
Implementation research to improve social mobilization initiatives	✗	✗	✓

### TIMELINES

2012	2014	2015-17
✗	✗	✓
✗	✗	✓
✗	✗	✓
✗	✗	✓
✗	✗	✓

### 7 BARRIERS TO IMMUNIZATION COVERAGE<sup>1</sup>

1. Disease awareness and risk perceptions for vaccine preventable diseases among caregivers - DEMAND
2. Doubts about the efficacy and safety of vaccines - DEMAND
3. Alternative means of prevention - DEMAND
4. Missing home-based vaccination cards/immunization record - DEMAND
5. Transport and waiting time - DEMAND & SUPPLY
6. Healthcare provider risk perception - SUPPLY
7. Unavailability of vaccines and vaccinators - SUPPLY

Source: UNICEF Pakistan

# SDGs Taskforce Members

## BUSINESS IN THE HOUSE

### for Sustainable Development Goals

#### PRIVATE MEMBER BILLS PASSED BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

BILL	INTRODUCED ON	PRESENTED ON	PASSED ON	
The National Commission on the Status of Women (Amendment) Bill, 2016	February 23 2016	January 31 2017	February 07 2017	 Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan, MNA
The Compulsory Blood Test for Thalassemia patients Bill, 2014	May 06 2014	September 06 2016	February 07 2017	 Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, MNA

#### LIST OF RESOLUTIONS

Date	Resolution Title	
MARCH 7, 2017	This house may discuss the poor performance of water and power development authority.	 Ms. Asiya Nasir, MNA
May 16, 2016	The government should take effective steps to improve maternal health facilities in federal hospitals in order to prevent child mortality.	 Dr. Nafisa Shah, MNA  Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, MNA
May 16, 2016	The government should take steps to alleviate poverty in the country.	 Ms. Aisha Syed, MNA
August 4, 2015	The government should take steps to control T.B., aids and hepatitis in the country	 Ms. Naeema Kishwer Khan, MNA
February 10, 2015	The government should take steps to make country 'polio free'	 Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan, MNA
February 10, 2015	The govt. should take steps to establish women university in swat	 Ms. Aisha Syed, MNA

#### LIST OF CALLING ATTENTION NOTICES

Date	Brief Subject		
January 21 2018	Inaccessibility of potable water to 80% population in the country	 Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan, MNA	 Ms. Kishwer Zehra, MNA
November 21, 2017	Causes of human rights abuse, especially against women during the recent weeks in the country.	 Ms. Naeema Kishwer, MNA	 Ms. Zahra Wadood Fatemi, MNA
October 10, 2017	Steep rise in the cases of breast cancer in the country	 Dr. Fehmida Mirza, MNA	 Ms. Asiya Nasir, MNA  Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb, MNA
September 24, 2016	Pakistan's 149th position out of 188 countries in the first global assessment of countries programme towards the UN health related SDGs.		 Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan, MNA
September 9, 2016	Malnutrition of Mother and Child resulting into 44% stunted children below the age of five years in Pakistan as reported by UNICEF	 Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb, MNA	 Mr. Shehryar Afridi, MNA  Ms. Aisha Syed, MNA
January 7, 2016	Poor water disputes resolution strategy and ineffective water conservation and management policy	 Dr. Nafisa Shah, MNA	 Mr. Imran Zafar Leghari, MNA

#### MOTION UNDER RULE 259

Date	Motion	
October 9, 2017	The situation arising out of insufficient health-care facilities in the Federal Capital (ICT)	 Ms. Aisha Syed, MNA
May 9, 2016	The energy projects underway in the country	 Dr. Nafisa Shah, MNA  Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, MNA