

# Do You Know?

Early childhood development plays a critical role in accumulation of human capital and breaking intergenerational transmission of poverty. Investing in early childhood development (SDG Target 4.2) is a requisite for achieving the following SDGs:

	<b>Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere</b>	<b>Goal 1:</b> ECD is one of the most cost-effective strategies for poverty alleviation. Early brain development sets children up for the future and enables them to learn skills to flourish in a 21 <sup>st</sup> century economy.
	<b>Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</b>	<b>Goal 2:</b> Children who receive early stimulation with nutrition supplements have better outcomes than children who only receive nutrition supplements. ECD interventions buffer the negative effect of stress thereby improving absorption of nutritional intake.
	<b>Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages</b>	<b>Goal 3:</b> ECD interventions early in life set a trajectory for good lifelong health. It can lead to lower incidence of cardiovascular and non-communicable diseases and can increase well-being.
	<b>Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</b>	<b>Goal 4:</b> Learning begins at birth. ECD interventions have proved to be the foundation for later learning, academic success and productivity
	<b>Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</b>	<b>Goal 5:</b> The link between early childhood development and women's economic empowerment is clear. Greater investment in high-quality and affordable childcare is linked to greater opportunities for women's economic advancement and empowerment.
	<b>Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels</b>	<b>Goal 16:</b> Early childhood interventions have the potential to instill values and behaviours that can reduce violence and promote peace. ECD interventions have been shown to lead to lower rates of violence in the home and greater social cohesion in communities.
	<b>Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development</b>	<b>Goal 17:</b> Measurement of early childhood development at global, regional and national levels can serve as a powerful tool to revitalise global partnerships

Courtesy: ECD in the SDGs  
A briefing note by ARNEC

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SDGs Quiz

Which province is taking the lead in provision of quality Early Childhood Education?

- a. Punjab | b. Balochistan | c. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa | d. Sindh



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

# SDGsWatch

PARLIAMENTARY PURSUIT FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



Newsletter 2018 | Issue 3



## Early Childhood Development

# The Foundation of Sustainable Development

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- World Children's Day
- First National Parliamentary Task Force Meeting
- 6th International Conference on Poverty Reduction in Early Childhood Development
- Pakistan International Summit on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics

### Nomination of SDGs task force from Provincial & Legislative Assemblies;

- Balochistan
- Gilgit Baltistan
- Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
- Punjab

### Member's Corner Parliamentary ECD Champions

- MNA - Mehnaz Akber Aziz
- MNA - Dr. Nafesa Shah
- MNA - Omer Ayub Khan





From the Desk of  
Mr. Asad Qaiser  
Honourable Speaker  
National Assembly of Pakistan

It is a matter of utmost honour for Pakistan being the first country in the world to have established a Parliamentary Taskforce on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2014. Since then the Parliament of Pakistan has continued to perform its role towards the international development commitments and pursued for required legislation. In order to maintain pace and continuity, the new Convener and National Taskforce on SDGs has been nominated at priority. The SDGs Secretariat is very active in providing data and technical assistance to strengthen the role of the Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs. Keeping relevance to the devolution of power after the 18th Amendment, the provinces have also been requested to follow suit. The National and provincial taskforces will now pick from where the previous Taskforce left its work.

A nation can only prosper when its people have a suitable standard of living and opportunities to become a positive contributor to the economy. Aiming to achieve this, Pakistan adopted Sustainable Development Goals as 'Pakistan Development Goals'. We are using these goals as a roadmap to ensure a better life for all through solving problems relating to health, education, poverty, gender inequality, climate change and more.

The Parliament and government of Pakistan are working together to set an example for other countries.

We have taken necessary steps long before the Voluntary National Review in order to showcase our success story at the High Level Political Forum in 2019. We carried out a data-gap analysis and set SDGs priorities accordingly. The next step is to conduct a legislative gap analysis and develop a National Monitoring and Evaluation framework.

The Parliamentarians represent the people of Pakistan and the Parliamentary Taskforces on SDGs aim to give voice to these people by highlighting the key development challenges and targeting the backward areas of the country.

As the patron of the Parliamentary SDGs Taskforce and SDGs Secretariat at the National Assembly of Pakistan I assure that the Parliament of Pakistan will do what is necessary for the achievement of targets by 2030.



From the Desk of Mr. Qasim Khan Suri  
Deputy Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan  
Head of SDGs Unit in Planning Commission

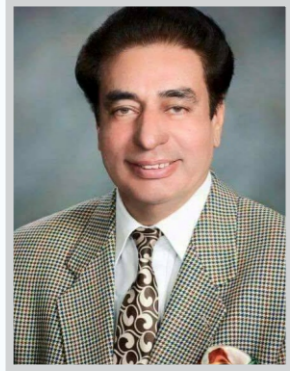
Sustainable Development Goals are universal development goals that 193 nations of the world have committed to adopt according to their national priorities. The Parliamentarians are custodians of law and hold immense power and responsibility towards the development of a nation. This makes their role highly important for the achievement of SDGs. We have ambitiously adopted SDGs 2030 for a sustainable Pakistan, aiming for a long-term economic prosperity, human and environmental development as exemplified by the Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs making its way through uncharted waters.

Water, climate change, energy, health, education, gender equality and economic growth are all national concerns. It is extremely important to keep them at a priority and build partnerships to improve human development indicators. The Parliament, government and people of Pakistan aim to enhance cooperation in dynamically, while engaging the international community as well. If these efforts are made wholeheartedly, Pakistan can successfully address these issues and leave a brighter future for its coming generations.



Deputy Speaker National Assembly Mr. Qasim Khan Suri inaugurated the nation-wide Polio Campaign of 2018 by administering polio drops to the children at Parliament House on 10.12.2018





From the Desk of Mr. Riaz Fatyana, Honourable Convener, National Parliamentary Taskforce on Sustainable Development Goals

The Constitution of Pakistan advocates for the fundamental human rights and commitment towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It provides equality to all citizens regardless of gender and ensures protection of women and children (Article 25). It binds the government to provide free and compulsory education to all children from the age of five to sixteen years (Article 25A). The constitution supports women empowerment (Article 34) and protects the rights of minorities (Article 36). Article 38 promotes the social and economic well-being of the people and is related to the SDGs: (Goal 1) No Poverty, (Goal 2) No Hunger, Goal 3 (Good Health), Goal 4 (Quality Education), Goal 8 (Good Jobs and Economic Growth), and Goal 10 (Reduced Inequality).

Pakistan can address the development challenges by ensuring the provision of these rights. However, Pakistan falls behind in the region according to Human

Development Indicators. This is where the Parliament should come in play.

SDGs are meant to address the root causes of poverty and the universal need for development that works for all people. The Voluntary National Review, that Pakistan has to be present at the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) in 2019, will be a means to identify challenges and accelerate implementation.

Therefore, this is the right time to move forward with a robust plan of action; to strive for a nation of sustainable prosperity, social inclusion and equality. At the same time, preserving the environment and leaving no one behind. The task is challenging. Hence, we need to undertake this journey together. We invite you to join hands and build an all-inclusive approach towards the National SDGs priorities.

## Constituency-wise data scorecards for informed Parliamentary oversight on SDGs

The strategic intent of the Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs is to develop constituency-wise, comparable data scorecards for each priority SDGs target. This includes health, education, youth and others. The scorecards will serve as a tool to monitor the overall developmental framework of Pakistan.

The scorecards will provide Parliamentarians and provincial assembly members with a detailed development profile of their constituency in relation to

SDGs, enabling them to formulate and push for effective and informed legislation and oversight.

To achieve this great milestone, we are building partnerships with the Ministry of Planning, development and reforms, research organizations, UN bodies and other stakeholders in the development sector. Together we plan to utilize resources effectively and generate comprehensive data scorecards for 273 constituencies of Pakistan.

## First Meeting of the 2nd National Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs



Left to Right: Ms. Mehnaz Akbar Aziz, Mr. Muhammad Bashir Khan, Mr. Faiz Ullah, Ms. Marriyum Aurangzaib, Mr. Asad Qaisar, Mr. Riaz Fatyana, Nawabzada Shah Zain Bugtli, Mr. Ramesh Lal, Ms. Sajida Begum, Mr. Ali Wazir, Ms. Wajiha Akram, Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khattak, Ms. Kanwal Shauzab, Mr. Junaid Akbar, Ms. Shandana Gulzar Khan, Ms. Kishwar Zehra.

The 2nd National Taskforce on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) held a meeting on 18th December, 2018 at the National Assembly of Pakistan to discuss the Significance of SDGs, progress of Pakistan and role of Parliamentarians. The Honourable Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan, Mr. Asad Qaiser graced the meeting as chief guest.

The meeting was attended by National Taskforce members - Parliamentary Secretary Planning Development and reforms Kanwal Shauzab, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of commerce, Shandana Gulzar, Parliamentary Secretary Wajiha Akram, MNA Nawabzada Shahzain Bugti, MNA Kishwar Zehra, MNA Ali Wazir, MNA Nafeesa Inayatullah Khattak, MNA Mehnaz Akbar Aziz, MNA Marriyum Aurangzeb, MNA Nausheen Hamid, MNA Asad Mehmood, MNA Faizullah Junaid Akbar, MNA Bashir Khan and MNA Ramesh Lal. Mr. Shakeel Ahmed, Assistant Country Director and Chief Development Policy Unit, United Nations

Development Programme (UNDP) Pakistan highlighted the significance of SDGs for Pakistan followed by a presentation by Dr. Abid Qayyum Suleri, Chief Executive Officer, Sustainable Development Policy Institute on the progress of Pakistan and how Parliamentarians can expedite the achievement of SDGs targets.

The Honorable Convener of National Parliamentary Taskforce for SDGs, Riaz Fatyana highlighted the challenges of malnutrition and stunting and also stressed upon the need for reduction in poverty and illiteracy in order to achieve SDGs Agenda 2030.

Mr. Asad Qaiser, Honourable Speaker, National Assembly of Pakistan commended the work of the National Taskforce and SDGs Secretariat in his closing address. He encouraged the members to use their role actively for the achievement of SDGs targets and promised full support by the National Assembly of Pakistan. (Text of speech on next page)



# Speech of Honorable Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan

It is my honour to announce that in the 15th National Assembly of Pakistan and National Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs has been made and they have started their work. Human Development is first priority of government and this is the base of forming PTI ideology and has created a way for winning elections for PTI on 25th July, 2018.

Importance of Human Development was realized in Prime Minister Imran Khan first speech to Nation in which Prime Minister took Nation in confident on the sensitive issue of child stunting and its elimination is a important target of government. I'm happy to mention that SDGs Taskforce has already worked on stunting and also organized the parliamentary conference on Routine Immunization but on such sensitive issue the Parliament should keep its oversight role and SDGs taskforce should come up with useful suggestions.

After 18th amendment SDGs related work has been shifted to provinces but Federal is still looking at the International matters in which Pakistan has signed International and UN Conventions so being the representatives of people of Pakistan, the Parliament has the right to keep looking at such matters to assist people of Pakistan. SDGs Taskforce should engage with all provinces including Gilgit Baltistan and Azad Jammu Kashmir.

Being Speaker of National Assembly of Pakistan I'm writing letters to all the provincial and local speakers in which I will suggest to form Taskforce on SDGs in their esteemed Assemblies. With help of Federal and

Provincial taskforce better results can be achieved.

Pakistan has the honor that its Parliament is first Parliament of world which has included SDGs in its agenda and with help of UNDP, state of the art Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat is formed. With help of SDGs Taskforce we have to connect current parliamentary agenda with UN SDGs 2030 in order make healthy, educated and respectful Pakistan. On behalf of myself and National Assembly Secretariat I sure to provide full help (tawan) to SDGs Taskforce.

As it's in your knowledge in order to create strong connection of NGO and Development Partners with Parliament, Project Management Unit (PMU) is established in National Assembly Secretariat. With its help strong coordination is made with economic Affairs division, United Nation, European Union and other organization. Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat, Women Caucus, Young Parliamentarian forum will also be looked after by PMU. In order to strengthen the working, PMU guidance is very important.

It is my advice to Taskforce to utilize the facilities provided by PMU office so that Speaker remains up to date regarding activities. I also issued direction to PMU to prepare a five -year strategy plan for 15th National Assembly. I'm also constituting the parliamentary committee including all groups and under the guidance of committee unanimous plan will be made which also includes strategy plan related to your taskforce. So it is my request to prepare a work plan which can be connected to parliamentary strategy plan.



# Why Investment in Early Years is Important?

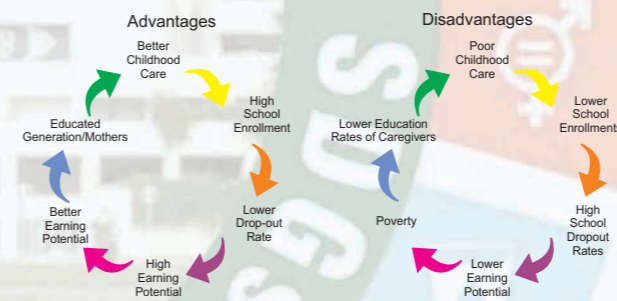


Mrs. Mehnaz Akber Aziz  
MNA, Member National Taskforce on SDGs

*"We cannot afford to postpone investing in children until they become adults nor can we wait until they reach school- a time when it may be too late to intervene."*  
(Nobel Laureate Economist Heckman. J)

*"The first five years have so much to do with how the next 80 turn out"*  
(Bill Gates Sr.)

Early years of a child's life are critically important. Formative growth of brain, both before birth and during the childhood, is pivotal to physical, cognitive and emotional development of an individual. The brain cells called neurons create connections called synopsis. Every new experience creates a new connection in the brain. Repeated experiences strengthen connections. Unused connections disappear. How well a brain develops and performs depends upon various factors. The most important one being proper nutrition. This is the period when the right type of education and care, or absence of it, may benefit or harm the development of children. Timely Intervention in Early Childhood



It is the early years of a child's life (0-8) that provides the foundation for development of life-long skills and all subsequent learning. Good health, a safe and nurturing environment and the right kind of mental stimulations gives a strong start and impetus for growth to a child and helps ensure later successes at school, work and society. Quality early childhood care and education

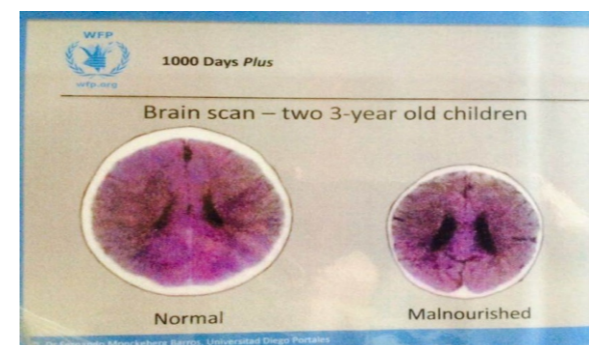
leads to higher school enrollment, lower dropout rates, higher earning potential, better income, less crimes and educated mothers. James Hackman, Nobel-prize winning economist suggests to the policy makers that they should invest more in young children where the return on investment is higher than in low- skilled adults.

## Importance of Nutrition in Early Years

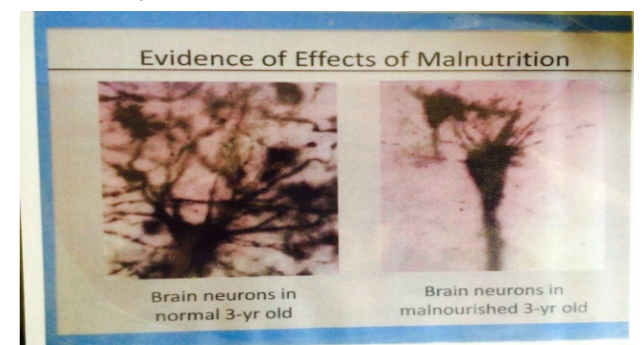
Early childhood programs will be beneficial only if the children who enroll in these programs are healthy and properly nourished. Research has shown that children who get the proper nutrition in their first 1,000 days (period from conception to 24 months) are 10 times more likely to overcome the most life-threatening childhood diseases; complete 4.6 more grades of school, earn 21% more wages as adults and are more likely to have healthier families. Children during this period are most vulnerable to adversity and most responsive to interventions.

Research has also shown that during early years (0-8) foundation is laid for the development of cognitive, motor, and socio-emotional skills. Children with restricted development of these skills during early life are at risk for later neuro-psychological problems, poor school achievement, early school drop out, low-skilled employment, and poor care of their own children, thus contributing to the intergenerational transmission of poverty. Therefore, preventing or reversing this loss in early childhood is crucial for advancing economic development and to reduce economic disparities.

## Malnutrition & Brain Development



A visual representation of the Brain scan of a normal healthy brain as opposed to a malnourished brain which is considerably smaller.



Neuron formation in normal 3-years old takes place at a rapid rate while the brain neurons in a malnourished child grow steadily.



## EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Status of Early Childhood Care & Education in Pakistan (ECCE)

Now let us look at the situation of children under five years who are 22 million in numbers in Pakistan. Some 34%, of the children are not registered, which is a hurdle for child protection.<sup>1</sup>

The health side Infant Mortality Rate is 65.8 per 1000 live births, which is far higher than the international average. 51% preschool aged children are anemic.

According to Pakistan Demographic & Health Survey 2017-2018, 38% of children are stunted while 17% are severely stunted, 23% children are underweight, 7% children are wasted, and 2% severely wasted in Pakistan.

So these undernourished children are at high risk of impaired cognitive development, which harmfully affects not only the individual's learning ability, this deficiency also scales down the efficiency of the country's investments in education, skill development, national productivity and development.

### Challenges to ECCE

Status of education and care of 3-5 years is also cause of concern as this is the age of brain development and school readiness. We have twenty-five million children of age 5 to 16 years out of schools; at least 60% of children in the country do not receive any pre-primary education. There is dearth of quality and affordable Early Childhood Education services in the country, especially for girls in rural areas. Basic facilities and services for ECCE in the government schools hardly exists, as a result the parents are sending their 3-5 years kids to the low cost private schools. Once the children enter the private sector they then never enter government schools.

Our planners, decision makers, and parents lack awareness about the need and importance of early childhood care and education for the children, education system and for the society as a whole. Although education sector plans in all provinces include ECE as an important component but an integrated approach that engages all sectors; education, health and nutrition, family, and social protection for holistic development of a child, is lacking.

The Government of Pakistan has recognized access of all children to free and compulsory education as their fundamental right by adding the Right to Education (RTE) Article 25A in the Constitution. This Article (25-A) provides that: "The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of 5 to 16 years in such manner as may be determined by law". There is no state umbrella to look after disadvantaged children of 3-5 years age group, a critical period of brain development and school readiness. If there is any umbrella like the Federal Government is legally responsible for provision of free pre-primary education to all children of age 3 to 5 living in Islamabad Capital

### ECCE: In Right to Education - Policies - SDGs

1. The National Education Policy (NEP) 1998
2. Education Sector Reforms Action Plan 2001-2006
3. EFA National Plans of Action; National Education Policy 2009
4. National Framework NEP-2018 (slightly), Provincial Education Sector Plans include ECE
5. SDG 4 indicators (SDG4.2) tracking under the SDG Units (federal/provincial)-But, Paucity of budgets for ECCE across Pakistan!
6. Article25-A of the Constitution (2010) makes Right to Education a fundamental right, stipulating free education for all Children aged 5-16; however, 25-A does not explicitly include ECCE/ECE age group
7. Laws for Right to Education passed at the provincial level, in Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) 2012, Sindh 2013 and Punjab 2014, have ECE provision in definitions and explicit articles pushing the boundaries of age group 5-16 years to include 3-5 years at their own discretion.
8. Early Childhood Education Policies approved separately in Sindh (2014/15) and Punjab (2017)- Balochistan has an ECE Policy Framework approved but no provision in 25-A law

Territory in accordance with Article 9 of Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act # xxiv of 2012. but it is not implemented.

We must realize that lack of investment on children will cost heavily to the country in terms of human resource development. The children of today are future of tomorrow. Malnutrition costs Pakistan US \$ 7.6 billion annually (or 3% of GDP every year). Spending on effective programs for young children in fact is an investment if done well will have very high returns and would help reduce the intergenerational transmission of poverty and inequality. This will enable the country to achieve targets of SDG 4.2 which obligates Pakistan to ensure by 2030 that - all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education. In this context all the stakeholders will have to join hands and work on war footing.

### Way Forward

Legal framework needs to be prepared for the state coverage of the age group of 0-5 years. Social and private sector innovative models should be studied, evaluated, replicated and patronized under the government framework. A strong political will and commitment and fiscal support should be mobilized and rendered to plan and launch a 3-6 years universal pre-primary program. This will significantly reduce Pakistan's most rigid and complex problems of low enrollment and high dropouts in primary education, paving the way for sustained socio-economic development at both rural and urban levels, ultimately transforming Pakistan into a knowledge economy.

<sup>1</sup> Situation Analysis of Children in Pakistan 2017 - UNICEF

<sup>3</sup> <http://data.worldbank.org/indicators>

<sup>2</sup> Pakistan Nutrition Profile, World Bank

<sup>4</sup> (ASER National Report 2015)

## EVENTS

### World Children's Day 2018

## The Parliament of Pakistan commits to the welfare of children



The Parliament of Pakistan celebrated World Children's Day by turning the Parliament building 'blue' on November 23rd 2018.

The goal of Universal Children's day is to improve child welfare worldwide, promote and celebrate children's rights and promote togetherness and awareness amongst all children.

Showcasing commitment towards this subject of universal and national importance, the Parliament of Pakistan unanimously adopted a resolution on the 'Rights of every child' on December 21st 2018 during

the 6th session of the National Assembly of Pakistan. The resolution was moved by Mrs. Mehnaz Akber Aziz, elected Member National Assembly. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Mr. Ali Muhammad Khan read out the resolution in the house.

## Resolution on Child Rights

### RESOLUTION 21-12-18

Acknowledging the World Children's Day celebrated on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November and Human Rights Day celebrated on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December, the National Assembly of Pakistan moves the following resolution:

- The House recognizes the rights of every child born in Pakistan as well as mothers, and resolves that the state must ensure provision of the best available early care and safe environment for all children. The House also recognizes the importance of the first thousand days of every child's life, starting from conception, which is a unique period of opportunity for brain development and laying foundations of optimum health and future growth of children;
- The House affirms the right of every new born child to registration and pledges that the mechanisms for proper registration of all new born children will be improved across the country.
- This House commits to invest time and make efforts for reducing malnutrition in children and mothers, and combat the menace of stunted growth among children in order to protect the future of Pakistan;
- This House will make all efforts to ensure that every child is in school and learning well, safe from all kinds of domestic and external harm and is realizing his/ her full potential ;
- This House recognizes the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation for all children and their mothers, citizens of Pakistan especially women and girls who suffer great indignity; and
- This House forcefully condemns merciless practices of the sale of children, internal human trafficking, child abuse, child pornography, and prostitution, and recommends strong legislation to curb these inhuman and brutal offences.

### Signatories of the Resolution

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| MR. ALI MUHAMMAD KHAN,<br>MINISTER OF STATE FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS                            | RAJA PERVAIZ ASHRAF<br>MR. SHAIKH ROHAIL ASGHAR<br>SYED IFTIKHAR-UL-HASSAN  |
| MS. KANWAL SHUZAB, PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT AND REFORMS                      | MR. ALI PERVAIZ<br>MR. MOHSIN DAWAR   |
| MS. RUKHSANA NAVEED PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY FOR CLIMATE CHANGE                                   | MR. KHURSHID AHMED JUNEJO<br>MR. NOOR-UL-HASSAN TANVIR  |
| MS. SYMA NADEEM, PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY INTER PROVINCIAL COORDINATION                           | NAWAB MUHAMMAD YOUSUF TALPUR<br>MR. KESOO MAL KHEEAL DAS  |
| MR. SHANDANA GULZAR KHAN, PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY FOR COMMERCE                                   | MR. ALI ZAHID<br>DR. DARSHAN  |
| MS. SEEMI BOKHARI<br>MR. RIAZ FATYANA<br>MS. ZILLE HUMA<br>MR. JUNAID AKBAR                      | MR. ALI WAZIR<br>RANA MUHAMMAD ISHAQ KHAN<br>NAWABZADA SHAH ZAIN BUGTI  |
| MR. MUHAMMAD IQBAL KHAN<br>MS. NAFISA INAYATULLAH KHAN KHATTAK<br>MALIK KARAMAT ALI KHOKHAR      | MS. MARYAM AURANGZAIB<br>MS. HINA RABBANI KHAR<br>MS. SHAZA FATIMA KHAWAJA<br>MS. NAZ BALOCH  |
| MR. RAHAT AMAN ULLAH BHATTI<br>MS. KISHWER ZEHRAN<br>MS. SHAHEEN NAZ SAIFULLAH<br>MR. SALLAHUDIN | MS. TAHIRA AURANGZAIB<br>MS. ROMINA KHURSHED ALAM<br>MS. SHAMS-UN-NISA<br>BEGUM TAHIRA BUKHARI<br>DR. NAFISA SHAH<br>MS. SHAHNAZ SALEEM MALIK<br>MS. SHUNILA RUTH<br>Members, National Assembly |



## 2018 Interregional Seminar on the 'Achievements of the SDGs for Parliaments of Developing Countries'

Pakistan's Parliamentary delegation comprising MNA Riaz Fatyana, Honorable Convener National Taskforce on SDGs, MNA Junaid Akber and MNA Mehnaz Akber Aziz attended the 2018 Interregional Seminar on the 'Achievements of the SDGs for Parliaments of Developing Countries' in Beijing China from September 10-12, 2018. The seminar was followed by field visits and meeting with Shanxi and Jiangsu People's Congress officials till 17 September 2018. The visiting delegations were also taken to the historical place in Xi'an (Shanxi province) & Nanjiang in (Jiangsu province).

The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and China's National People's Congress (NPC) organized the seminar. This seminar was the third of a series of IPU regional seminars in the country to advance the work and contribution of parliaments to the SDGs. Parliamentarians from Ethiopia, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and China took part in the event to foster interregional exchanges on SDGs implementation between Asian and African parliaments. The seminar discussed how parliaments could effectively engage in lawmaking to facilitate the implementation of the SDGs, and share successful experience in their own countries. Special emphasis was placed on south-south development cooperation,

the role of legislative bodies in achieving the SDGs, innovative development and well-being for all.

The seminar allowed the participants to proactively engage on these issues and to elaborate concrete strategies, actions and recommendations so as to advance parliamentary engagement on the SDGs. The core areas of discussions included central governance, administrative & judicial, National People's Congress mandate on finances, foreign, overseas, agriculture, social development, legal affairs, education, health and culture and the role of legislatures in Sustainable Development Goals with specific focus on innovation, ECO development, natural resources and sustainable development. To understand the management and governance the group was taken to provinces Shaanxi & Jiangsu where they were given presentations on the details and subsequently visited Xi'an and Nanjing the capital cities of the two provinces.

The delegates were taken to 'Great Wall', Forbidden City, clay warriors at Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum site Museum & Nanjing Museum one of the largest museum of China with history of 5,000 years. Pakistan can benefit on governance ecological and green development and social sectors and youth. These areas should be packaged with the current CPEC programs.



## Conference on Poverty Reduction & Child Development in China Foundations of Human Development are laid in Early Childhood



Mr. Riaz Fatyana, Convener of the National Taskforce on SDGs and Ms. Mehnaz Akber Aziz, Member Parliament of Pakistan were invited to represent Pakistan at the China Development Research Foundation's two-day conference on Poverty Reduction and Child Development titled: 'Towards Poverty Free Future', in Beijing on November 5-6, 2018.

The conference sixth in the series since 2010 aimed at presenting and promoting progress and achievements on child development across countries, share the most advanced science and knowledge about child development, encourage international and cross sector dialogue, and advocate better policy and practice for disadvantaged children around the globe.

The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development proposes to end global poverty in 2030 and it incorporates early childhood development for the purpose of achieving social prosperity and sustainable development. The Chinese government in this context has formulated a strategy for prioritizing child development in national plans and increasing investment in education and nutrition for children in poverty-stricken areas. The final goal of such initiatives is to break the intergenerational transmission of poverty. Organizing poverty reduction and child development conferences is part of this strategy. The series of this conference achieved good results and positive social impact.

Mr. Riaz Fatyana in the conference gave a presentation on the topic: Beyond 2020 – Human Capital & Sustainable Development. He shared that Pakistan's Parliament is the first in the world to initiate and establish a SDGs Task Force & a secretariat in the Parliament of Pakistan in 2016 to prioritize SDG Agenda in the legislative business. He also shared the status of health & education in Pakistan, its commitment to ECD and way forward.

More than 300 delegates attended the conference, which included over 100 overseas and about 200 domestic representatives. The speakers represented cross section of society. There was diversity of topics for presentations and speeches with the international speakers sharing their country experiences on poverty reduction and childhood development.

China's current poverty eradication efforts have attracted worldwide attention and achieved remarkable results. Developing human capital i-e investing in people through nutrition, healthcare and quality education is key to ending poverty. The foundations of human capital created in early Childhood have thus become more important.

Hon members invited Mr. LU Mai –Vice Chairman and Secretary General, CDRF to address Parliamentarians and share the Chinese experience of poverty reduction and support Pakistan in formulation of a strategy for Pakistan.



## Creating Regional Alliances on SDG 4.2

Ms. Mehnaz AKber Aziz, Member National Assembly represented Pakistan in the two days meeting of selected Asia –Pacific Regional Network of Early Childhood (ARNEC) National Representatives and Institutional Members in Bangkok, Thailand, December 4-5, 2018. The meeting aimed to build priorities of the region into the Network.

ARNEC has a membership alliance of 40 countries. The meeting had representatives from Indonesia, Philippines, Burma, India, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Nepal, Cambodia, Lao Pedro, Indonesia, and Pakistan. The discussions included priority areas for the coming year in light of achieving SDG 4.2 through advocacy and peer learning.

On the request of Ms. Mehnaz Aziz, ARNEC has formed a group of Country Representatives from Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines and China to inform Pakistan on best practices through the Parliamentary process to attain SDG 4.2.



## Pakistan International Summit on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics November 28-30, 2018

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) is a mechanism which entails the collection of information by civil registration system by observing frequency of occurrence of specified and defined vital events (e.g. births, deaths, cause of deaths, marriage, and migration). The data is then compiled, processed, analyzed, evaluated, presented and disseminated into statistical forms. Civil Registration and Vital Statistics is

henceforth critical to support efficient functioning of the National Health System.

The Parliamentary Secretary for Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms, Ms. Kanwal Shauzab who is also member of the National Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs, expressed whilst addressing the summit,



"It is our immense pleasure to host first international summit on CRVS in South Asia where all South Asian countries can share their knowledge, experiences, ideas, and practices.

I am sure this conference will help all of us explore efficient ways to strengthen our friendships and collaborations in CRVS and beyond."

She highlighted the need for a strong Civil Registration and Vital Statistics system and its contribution to an effective informed planning, an efficient resource allocation, an accurate evaluation and monitoring of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Parliamentary Secretary said civil registration helps in strengthening public administration and governance by giving individuals a legal identity, a civil status and by information generation that feeds into national data system and population databases.

A well-functioning Civil Registration System is critical in monitoring country's progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Parliamentary Secretary is simultaneously working on a National Monitoring and Evaluation Policy to improve mechanisms and measure Pakistan's progress towards the goals.

Information on Vital Statistics (births, deaths, migration etc) is needed by a number of ministries and departments for day to day use, planning and forecasting.

### Role of CRVS in Pakistan

1. Pakistan does not have a credible mechanism in place to ensure the registration of births and deaths, and lacks in reporting complete and accurate cause of death data. Information disaggregated by age, gender, location and/or socioeconomic status is also not available as is the case for many developing nations around the globe.

2. Pakistan has been identified as one of the six priority countries by UNESCAP where CRVS strengthening is planned to be undertaken. Given the fact that the subject of CRVS is multidisciplinary in nature, the task of overall coordination for CRVS development has been assigned to the Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms. This ministry in close coordination with Provincial Departments, NADRA, the WHO country and regional offices, Plan international, UNICEF and other partners organized 'Rapid and Comprehensive Assessments of the CRVS' in Pakistan mainly to realize the current status of CRVS implementation in Pakistan.

3. These studies have revealed that National data for birth and death registration are exceptionally low. Where only 30% births are being recorded with almost no death registration mechanisms. Cause of death information is lacking and ICD- 10 for coding cases of deaths in hospitals is not being practised. Resultantly, very little vital statistics generated from the



civil registration systems and country has thus obliged to resort to expensive and tedious community based surveys (Population census, DHS and MICs etc).

4. These assessments called for the promotion of CRVS in the country with formation of strong coordination mechanisms at National/Provincial levels for CRVS promotion. During the International Summit, the Parliamentary Secretary shed light on the Prime Minister's first 100 days,

"Our Institutions are setting the direction for Naya Pakistan, Naya Pakistan means economic recovery, poverty alleviation, end of corruption, climate change adaptation, better health and education, and restoration of hope for a better Pakistan".

The present government plans to revolutionize social sector through reforms and evidence-based policy. Betterment in health and education sectors, expansion of social safety net, women empowerment and provision of basic facilities including clean drinking water are all a part of current objectives.

Currently Pakistan has several small scale CRVS initiatives functioning in various segments in silos.

"But unfortunately, these systems are not synchronized and are not in a position of producing disaggregated data by gender, location and socioeconomic status. If synchronized, such initiatives could play an enormous role in improving planning, forecasting, development, management and research work in our day-to-day activities," she said.

In light of these developments, A National Steering and Coordination Committee for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) comprising of Federal Ministries, Provincial Departments, Nadra and other Development Partners has been constituted under the chairmanship of Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reform.



# Importance of Immunization in Early Childhood Development

Immunization against contagious childhood diseases is one of the public health's greatest achievements of 21st century. Evidence shows that result of successful childhood immunization programs, the incidence of vaccine preventable diseases has reduced at all-time low levels globally that contributed positively in early childhood development.

Pakistan started Routine Immunization program in 1978. Initially it covered vaccination against 6 vaccine preventable diseases but with the passage of time and inclusion of new vaccines in the program, this program is now protecting approximately 7 million children against 10 vaccine preventable diseases (childhood Tuberculosis, polio, diarrhea, pneumonia, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, hepatitis B, Hib, Influenza, and Measles).

After the 18th constitutional amendment, the implementation of immunization activities has been carried out by the provinces. However, the Federal Government acts as a nucleus to coordinate, monitor and supervise provinces and areas in the implementation process of the provincial programmes. The programme also facilitates provincial health departments by procurement and supply of requisite vaccines and other logistics. The objectives of Federal EPI program include increasing equitable coverage of immunization, decreasing vaccine preventable disease related morbidity and mortality rate in the country and improving immunization services through expansion of service delivery and cold chain.

In Pakistan a lot of work has been done in raising awareness and creating demand for immunization services as a right of every child but still there is a room for improvement. Expansion in services is directly proportional to the increased demand therefore it is a constant need to work with communities in demand creation area. Coverage ratio of a fully immunized child in Pakistan Demographic Health (PDHS) Survey shows gradual progress in recent years.

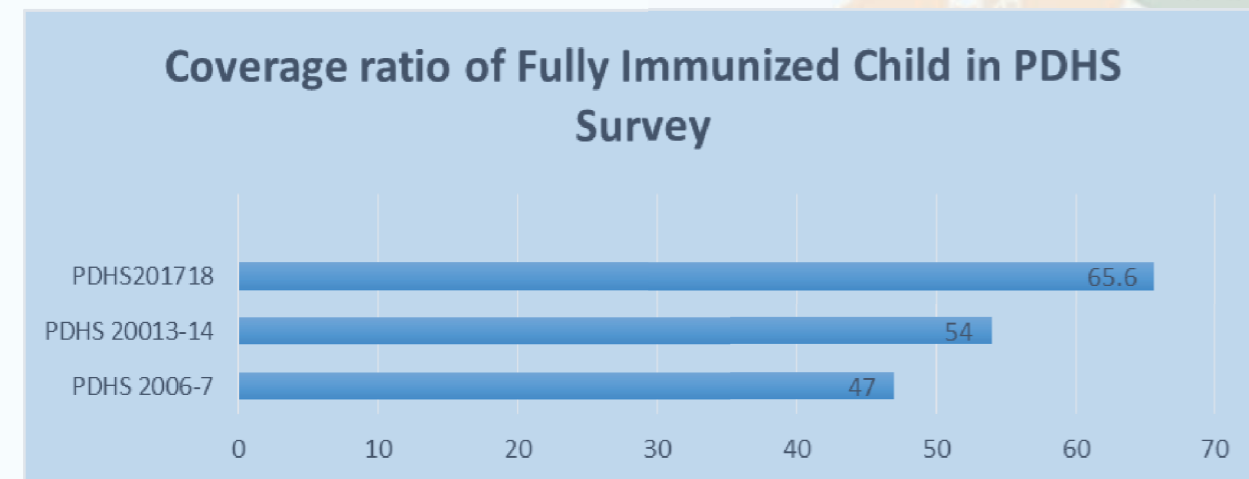
Given the importance of first 1000 days in early childhood development, it is crucial to provide improved sanitation, hygiene, and other living conditions to create a generally healthier environment and reduce the risks for disease exposure however the long-term decrease of diseases can be achieved primarily as a result of strong immunization system.

Strong Routine Immunization program for any country has a crucial role in achieving SDGs targets. As one of the most far-reaching health interventions, it closely reflects the ethos of the SDGs: "leaving no one behind". Vaccine preventable diseases attack at marginally nourished children in malnourished areas therefore Immunization and good nutrition go hand in hand.

Immunization is one of the cost effective ways to ensure long and healthy lives. Every year, vaccines save 2-3 million lives, and million more are protected from disease and disability. Vaccines protect child health and support cognitive development, enabling children to learn more and have more opportunities. Strong health system with immunization as a core component can help communities cope with emergencies and keep vulnerable populations healthy.

A 2016 study conducted by Johns Hopkins University and published in Health Affairs found that for every dollar invested in vaccination in the world's 94 lowest-income countries, US\$ 16 are expected to be saved in healthcare costs. Good health leads to social and economic development, enabling people to utilize their full potential. Immunized children have higher cognitive abilities to contribute positively as a productive members of their community.

Immunization is one of the best ways we can protect our children and future generations from infectious diseases and invest in quality brought up of children for a prosperous nation. (Article by Dr. Syed Saqlain Ahmad Gilani, National Program Manager, EPI)



# Early Childhood Development (ECD) Legislation in Nepal



In South Asia, Nepal is the best example of a country that has legislated ECD. The Constitution of Nepal recognizes ECD as a fundamental right of all children. In 2016 the Education Act was reviewed and an amendment made and pre-primary education (ECCE or one year of pre-primary education) included as an integral part of free and compulsory basic education.

The main driving force behind this achievement in Nepal was a CSO called Seto Gurans and a few national champions who advocated for ECD and the formation of a Parliamentary Caucus. The caucus was supported by an ECD technical group, which was formed with the objective of orienting the Caucus members on ECD.

Simultaneously they also reached out to development partners including UNICEF, UNESCO and others and established a development partner group to support the various activities of the caucus. Over the years as a result of initiatives led by the CSO including all the advocacy with the Parliamentary caucus they have managed to get ECD recognized as a fundamental right in the constitution and integrated ECE into the 8th amendment of the education act.

As Nepal moves into a new federal system of governance this year responsibility for integrated services for ECD from home to school level has been delegated to local governments. The government budget for ECD has increased from 0.5 % to 2.5 %. Several political parties have also integrated ECD into the party manifesto. They are also planning to set up sub-ECD caucus at the local level under the new federal structure.

In Nepal an ECD Steering committee has been set up under the National Planning Commission for integrated planning for ECD and to coordinate among different ministries and lobby for ECD.

# G 20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development



It was a historic moment for early childhood development (ECD) when G20 leaders in Buenos Aires, Argentina signed a declaration signaling

prioritization for the early childhood development agenda. For the first time in the history of G20, ECD has been included - which is no small feat.

They write: "We launch the G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development and stand ready to join all stakeholders in enhancing quality and sustainably financed early

childhood programs that consider the multidimensional approach of ECD, as means of building human capital to break the cycle of intergenerational and structural poverty, and of reducing inequalities, specially where young children are most vulnerable."

It is hoped that together, next year, we can build on this incredible political visibility for the ECD agenda by advocating for increased investment & political commitment to implementation of ECD programs at scale for all young children.

The link to the full ECD declaration you may find here: [https://www.ecdan.org/assets/g20\\_initiative\\_for\\_early\\_childhood\\_development.pdf](https://www.ecdan.org/assets/g20_initiative_for_early_childhood_development.pdf)



## Introductory meeting on the National Parliamentary Task Force on SDGs with their Convener 3rd October 2018

The 2nd National Parliamentary Task Force on SDGs was invited for an introductory meeting by the Honourable Chairperson Riaz Fatyana, at the SDGs Secretariat, National Assembly of Pakistan. The Chairperson commended efforts of the 19th Speaker of the House, Ayaz Sadiq, in establishing a state-of-the-art Parliamentary Secretariat dedicated to the Sustainable Development Goals and appreciated the path paved by previous Chairperson, Marriyum Aurangzeb.

In 2016, the Task Force was established with the intention of having a parliamentary oversight on Pakistan's international commitment to the SDGs.

To ensure complete representation of the House, the Taskforce, henceforth, has a multi-party representation with MNAs from minority seats as well. This is a

tradition which the Chairperson, Riaz Fatyana honoured, and this has in return resulted in the inclusion of more political parties when compared to that of the previous Task Force.

Brief introductions and areas of interests were discussed which was followed by an informative introductory presentation that outlined the progress on the work so far and suggestions for the Secretariat's way forward were made.

The Chairperson took the opportunity to announce Constituency Scorecards for Members of the taskforce. In view of the data and legislative gaps present as hurdles for policy makers, he hoped that the scorecards would give surplus initiatives for the strengthening of the Parliament as an institution and key role of surveillance.



## Working for Clean Green Pakistan

ISLAMABAD 8th October 2018: The SDGs Secretariat team and UNICEF-Pakistan WASH specialist met Ms. Zartaj Gul, the Honorable Minister of State for Climate Change to highlight the key challenges of contaminated water and open defecation faced by Pakistan. The meeting took place right before the Honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan launched the 'Clean and Green Pakistan' campaign.

Ms. Zartaj Gul expressed that "Pollution is one of the main issues that the government aims to tackle. It is equally important to make Pakistan an Open defecation free country (ODF)". She added that millions of people in the country do not have access to a toilet, forcing them to defecate in the open. This spreads diseases that lead to intestinal infections which is a major contributor to stunted growth in the country. She confirmed that the Ministry will take all necessary steps to address this menace through initiatives like 'Clean and Green Pakistan'.

Concluding the meeting she agreed to convey our message to Hon. Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Imran Khan. Consequently, Hon. Prime Minister highlighted the issue of open defecation and contaminated water in his speech that evening and stressed to resolve the issue on priority basis.



## UNICEF Team Introductory meeting with Convener of Parliamentary SDGs Task Force Riaz Fatyana

Mr. Riaz Fatyana, Honourable Convener National Taskforce on SDGs met with UNICEF-Pakistan for an introductory meeting to present the progress that has been made possible through partnership under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the 19th Speaker of the National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in March 2017

UNICEF-Pakistan expressed their enthusiasm and appreciation of the Chairperson's extensive background in Human Rights advocacy as Standing Committee Chairman and commended the privilege that the Secretariat is presented with, under the Chairperson and his Parliamentary wisdom. They went onto further elaborate on the UNICEF collaboration proposing further technical assistance for capacity building of legislators to oversee progress on SDGs' indicators related to children.

The work plan proposed to be updated, includes providing evidence of data sets to be made available through UNICEF's support in order to assist prompt and informed policymaking; as well as supporting the technical capacity of SDGs Task force members at federal and provincial level. Orientation sessions will be organized for Parliamentarians and provincial assembly members henceforth, strengthening their advocacy role towards National Monitoring and Evaluation Framework on SDGs and use of evidence, such as scorecards to address present data gaps.

Consultative meetings will be supported of relevant stakeholders and aligned ministries with parliamentarians, relevant SDGs Task Force Members. Parliamentary SDGs Task Force Members and Provincial SDGs Task Force Members will be invited to participate in UNICEF program areas' at national, regional and international levels.





## NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY TASKFORCE AT WORK



Meeting with Mr. Abid Suleri, Chief Executive Officer, Sustainable Development Policy Institute and team to activate the partnership and discuss action plans to work progressively for SDGs on November 2, 2018.

### Constituency-wise data scorecards



Mr. Riaz Fatyana, Honorable Convener of the National Taskforce on SDGs, Mr. Zafarullah Khan, Executive Director, Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services and the SDGs Secretariat team met Mr. Shakeel Ahmed, Assistant Country Director, Chief Development Policy Unit, United Nations Development Programme Pakistan at the Parliamentary SDGs secretariat on December 13, 2018 to discuss the adoption of evidence-based development policies in Pakistan. Discussions also focussed upon the formation of data dashboard and constituency-wise data scorecards for 273 constituencies of Pakistan on selective SDGs priority areas.

### Kanwal Shauzab: National Monitoring & Evaluation Policy Champion

As a policymaker, I have prioritized the development of an integrated and all encompassing National Monitoring and Evaluation Framework & Policy for Pakistan to support both, Prime Minister Imran Khan and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's vision for the nation in the forthcoming years.

Pakistan is inching closer to presenting its Voluntary National Review (VNR) at the UN Headquarters in New York this summer, it is henceforth crucial we reflect on the achievements and case studies presented in earlier years

by neighboring countries and regional comparisons of progress made on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Taking this learning into perspective, it is evident that successful models are at the very least supported by mechanisms enabling monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs.



Having met with UNICEF representatives in early October and I expressed and highlighted the need to address data gaps, redefinition of baseline targets, constituency scorecards and local bodies' engagement in the countries development narrative.

Keeping the 18th Constitutional Amendment in mind, discussing my priorities with Chief Minister Punjab, Sardar Usman Buzdar and the Governor of Lahore, Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar was both essential and encouraging. I look forward to bringing provincial governments on board for knowledge sharing practices and to ensure an inclusive approach in the development of a National M&E policy. Instead of an exclusively top down approach, we must engage bottom up as well to ensure complete provision. I am of the opinion that Monitoring and Evaluation should contribute to improved Parliamentary supervision, governance, transparency, accountability and inclusion. Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms need to be development oriented-nationally, institutionally and locally.



Political will is necessary in raising awareness for the need of a National M&E framework. I have gone onto discuss and have appreciated support of UN Women Executive Director, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka during her visit to Pakistan in December, WHO Regional Director for Eastern Mediterranean Region along with UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, LEAD Pakistan and World Bank in supporting my efforts of ensure citizen centric reforms and the monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs.

## POLITICAL CHAMPIONS OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT



Mrs. Mehnaz Akber Aziz is a leading voice in education and one of the pioneers of early childhood education in Pakistan. She has dedicated over two decades to developing & implementing education sector reforms in Pakistan and promoting equitable quality education. She has founded a National educational institution by the name of Children's Global Network Pakistan for advocating 'equitable education' in the country as a solution to counter Poverty.

She has introduced child centered-methodologies and best global teaching practices to hundreds of schools across Pakistan starting from pre-primary. She has to her credit creation of a National Center of Excellence on Early Childhood Care & Education called 'Parwaan Pakistan' under auspices of Ministry for Federal Education and Professional Training for institutionalization of ECCE in Pakistan.

Ms. Aziz has pioneered an innovative "Social ECD Entrepreneurship Model" that caters to the learning and developmental needs of disadvantaged children of age group 3-5 years and also provides unemployed educated youth an opportunity to generate income by opening up ECE centers in the community through extensive training in Entrepreneurial and ECE pedagogical skills.

Her efforts are supporting the government in universalizing Primary education in Pakistan by bringing in more than 200,000 out of school children for enrollment and retaining them in seventy districts of Pakistan. Ms. Aziz provided technical support through her organization to Allama Iqbal Open University in designing and development of Post-Graduate Diploma course on Early Childhood Education & Development of one-year duration and of 30 credit hours. The course helped in filling an important gap of the high demand amongst Pakistani students wishing to acquire technical education regarding Early Childhood Education.

Ms. Aziz has served as a member on the Advisory Committee of the Ministry for Federal Education & Professional Trainings under previous government's tenure. She has also served as a senior member of the Education Task Force under the Prime Minister of Pakistan and also as an Early Years Education Advisor

to World Bank. She has also been a member of Punjab Compulsory Education Commission (PCEC). She has also been on the Board of Advisor, GEO TV Network, Zara Sochiye Education Campaign. Ms. Aziz is currently at the expert panel of World Economic Forum's Network for Pakistan.

Ms. Aziz is also a part of professional networks on Early Childhood-Asia Pacific Regional Network on Early Childhood (ARNEC), International Step by Step Association (ISSA) and has been Global Scholar for Brookings Institute Centre of Universal Education (2012). She is representative of Pakistan at the South Asia Early Childhood Development Professionals Forum (SAECDPF). When Pakistan became the Secretariat of E9 countries - Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico and Nigeria- for two years Ms. Aziz provided active support to the Ministry in coordination & sharing of best practices with regard to early childhood education and development.



A pre-primary class at district Khairpur

Dr. Nafisa Shah, Member National Assembly of Pakistan and social anthropologist have always been keen in implementing quality education initiatives in Sindh in general and in Khairpur in particular. She has been vice president of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. Dr. Nafisa Shah has also been recognized as a Young Global Leader at the World Economic Forum in 2005.

During her tenure as Chair of Pakistan's National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) she built schools, adult literacy centres and vocational training institutes. Nafisa had been nominated for the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize for remarkably administrating the District Khairpur as Nazima (Mayor).

Dr. Nafisa Shah has an outstanding contribution in education. She gave a lot of support and guidance in launching the donor funded education programs in Sindh. Her efforts for promotion of pre-primary education are also commendable. Dr. Nafisa Shah knowing the importance of early years introduced ECE classes in more than 90 government schools in Khairpur. She introduced digital libraries and computer labs in many schools. She spent development funds mostly on improving the quality of education as a result parents now prefer sending their children to government schools rather than private schools.



## POLITICAL CHAMPIONS OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT



Mr. Omar Ayub Khan Inaugurates an ECE Center | District Haripur

Hon. Omar Ayub Khan Masters in Business Administration from George Washington University, U.S.A, former Finance Minister and at present Federal Minister for Power belongs to a political family who has played a very active role in the development of district Haripur. His organization Hazara Advocacy & Development Foundation (HADAF) works with the local

communities for community infrastructure uplift projects, adult literacy and various advocacy programs in Haripur.

Hon. Omar Ayub Khan is always supportive and personally takes interest in initiatives in the education sector that are innovative. He has facilitated establishment of more than fifty Parwaan Early Childhood Education centers for marginalized children of age group 3-5. These centers are equipped with state of the art ECE kit Hon. Omar Ayub sahib felt the need for these centers as pre-primary classes were mostly in the private sector and were expensive for the low-income families. To provide the benefits of quality early childhood Education to the marginalized community he fully supported the initiative. To date 1,200 children are enrolled in these centers and are enjoying the benefits of pre-primary education.

In 2007 The World Economic Forum selected him as a Young Global Leader owing to his contribution in the development sector.

### Focal Person for SDG 4 Target 4.2

Goal - 4 "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all"

Target 4.2. By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre- primary education so that they are ready for primary education



Mrs. Mehnaz Akber Aziz, MNA and Member Parliamentary Task Force on SDGs has been assigned to lead SDG 4, target 4.2. Mrs. Mehnaz Akber Aziz one of the pioneers of early childhood education in Pakistan. Being member of International Early Childhood Networks she has brought international best practices to Pakistan adapted in the local context. She has created models and implemented scale-up of Early Childhood Education programs through extensive advocacy and multiple strategies; got ECED recognized

as one of the focus areas by government and political leadership and incubated and scaled-up the first youth social entrepreneurship program on ECED in Pakistan.

We welcome her as lead on SDG 4, 4.2. She is confident to help achieve Pakistan's international commitments with regard to Early Childhood Care and Education.

### SDG 4.2 Task force work initiated

TO SHARE BEST PRACTICES NATIONAL & GLOBAL ADVISORY GROUP	PEER TO PEER LEARNING COUNTRIES THAT HAVE LEGISLATED & IMPLEMENTED ECCE
<p><b>NATIONAL:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parwaan National Center of Excellence on ECCE</li> <li>Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI)</li> </ul> <p><b>GLOBAL:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Bank</li> <li>DFID</li> <li>European Union</li> <li>UNICEF</li> <li>China Development Research Foundation (CDRF)</li> <li>Early Childhood Development Task Force (ECDTF)</li> <li>Asia – Pacific Regional Network on Early Childhood (ARNEC)</li> <li>International Step by Step Association (ISSA)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nepal</li> <li>China</li> <li>Malaysia</li> <li>Indonesia</li> <li>Philippine</li> </ul>

## NATIONAL SDGs TASK FORCE MEMBERS

### Mr. Riaz Fatyana - NA 113



Riaz Fatyana is an elected Member of the National Assembly from NA -113 (Toba Tek Singh). He is a "Political Psychologist" by profession. He has served as President of the Pakistan Psychological Association. During his political career, He has been elected for 3 terms as Member of the Punjab Provincial Assembly for the terms 1988-1990, 1990-1993 and 1993-1996. He has also been Member National Assembly during 2002-2007 and 2008-2013. He has been two times Chairman of National Assembly Standing Committee on Human Rights, as well as Parliamentary Affairs. He was Chairman of Parliamentarians Commissions for Human rights. He has also served as the Provincial Minister of Education, Finance and Information and Culture in Government of the Punjab. Mr. Fatyana was elected Vice President in Committee of Democracy and Human Rights of Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) in Panama Conference. He has remained an Educationist and Human Rights Activist. Presently he is serving as the Chairman Standing Committee on Law and Justice and furthermore also as the Chairperson of the Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat, National Assembly of Pakistan and Convener of the National Parliamentary Taskforce on Sustainable Development Goals.

### Sajid Hussain Turi – NA 46



Mr. Sajid Hussain holds a Bachelors Degree from GDC Parachinar. He has been elected thrice as a Member of the National Assembly and then got re-elected as a Member of the National Assembly during the general elections as a candidate of Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians. (PPPP) from Kurram, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

### Muhammad Akhtar Mengal - (NA 269)



Mr. Muhammad Akhtar Mengal holds a Bachelors Degree in Electronics Engineering from Dehavelion College, United Kingdom. He is the chairman of Balochistan National Party (BNP) and has previously served as the Chief Minister of Baluchistan between 1997 and 1998. Moreover, he was also the Leader of Opposition in Baluchistan Assembly 1993-1996. He got elected as the member of the National Assembly during the general elections of 2018, from Khuzdar, Balochistan.

### Mr. Nawabzada Shah Zain Bugtti - (NA 259)



Mr. Nawabzada Shah Zain Bugtti was elected to the National Assembly as a candidate of Jamhoori Wattan Party in 2018 from Dhera Bugti, Baluchistan.

### Ms. Kishwer Zehra - (RSW-Sindh-13)



Ms. Kishwer Zehra was elected to the National Assembly of Pakistan as a candidate of Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) on a seat reserved for women from Sindh during the General Elections of 2008. She was re-elected to the National Assembly as a candidate of MQM on a reserved seat for women from Sindh in 2013 and 2018.

### Ms. Maryam Aurangzeb - (RSW-Punjab-04)



Ms. Maryam Aurangzeb holds a Masters Degrees from King's College London University in Environmental and Development Policy. She was elected to the National Assembly as a candidate of Pakistan Muslim League N (PMLN) on a reserved seat for women in 2013 and re-elected as Member National Assembly in 2018. Ms. Aurangzeb also served as a Federal Minister and Minister of State

for Information and Broadcasting from 2017-2018. She was also the first Parliamentary SDGs Taskforce Convener in Pakistan.

### Ms. Rubina Irfan - (RSW-BALUCHISTAN-02)



Ms. Rubina Irfan holds a Bachelor's degree from Balochistan University. She was elected to the Provincial Assembly of Balochistan in 2002, on Pakistan Muslim League (Q) ticket as head of the party's Women's Wing from Quetta, Balochistan. She was elected as a member of Senate during the Senate elections of 2012 till 2018. She was elected as the Member of the National Assembly

during the general elections of 2018. Currently she is associated with a number of committees of the Senate, namely; marginalized Segments of Society, Defense Production, Petroleum and Natural Resources, Ports and Shipping and Problems of Less Developed Areas.



### Syed Javed Ali Shah Jilani - (NA 210)



Syed Javed Ali Shah Jilani holds a Masters Degree in Political Science from the University of Sindh. He has been elected twice as a Member of the National Assembly 2002-2007 and 2018-2023 as a candidate of Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians (PPPP).

### Captain (Ret) Jamil Ahmed Khan - (NA 237)



Mr Jamil Ahmed Khan holds a Masters from (K.U Govt). He has been a Member National Assembly since August 2018 as a candidate of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) from Karachi. Prime Minister Imran Khan appoint him as Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Maritime Affairs

### Mr. Hussain Elahi - (NA 68)



Mr Hussain Elahi holds a Bachelor's Degree from Northeastern University, Boston. He became a Member National Assembly as a candidate of Pakistan Muslim League (Q) in the General Elections of 2018 from Gujrat, Punjab.

### Ali Khan Jadoon – NA 16



Ali Khan Jadoon holds a Bachelors degree in Business Administration. He was elected as a member of National Assembly in general elections of 2018 from Abbottabad.

### M. Javeria Zafar Aheer -- RS PUNJAB 21



Javeria Zafar holds a masters degree in Finance along with which she has also done MPhil in Education. She was elected as a member of the National Assembly in the general elections of 2018 as a candidate of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on a reserved seat for women from Punjab. Prime Minister Imran Khan has currently appointed her as Federal Parliamentary Secretary for

information and broadcasting.

### Mr. Muhammad Ali Wazir - (NA-50)



Mr. Muhammad Ali Wazir holds a Law Degree (LLB) from Gomal University DI Khan. He has been a Member National Assembly since August 2018 as an Independent candidate from South Waziristan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

### Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khatak - (RSW KPK 01)



Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak graduated from Allama Iqbal Open university (HSSC). She was elected as National Assembly Member as a candidate of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on a reserved seat for women from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in 2013 and then got re-elected in 2018 from Nowshera, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

### Kanwal Shauzab – RSW PUNJAB 22



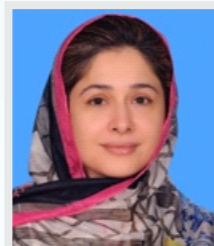
Kanwal Shauzab holds an M.Phil degree in Political Science from Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad. She was elected as a member of the National Assembly during the general elections of 2018 on a reserved seat for women from Punjab. She was appointed as the Parliamentary Secretary for Planning, Development and Reforms by the Prime Minister, Imran Khan.

### Ms. Mehnaz Akbar Aziz – NA 77



Mehnaz Akbar Aziz is an Anthropologist and also holds a Masters degree in Gender Development. She has been elected as a member of the National Assembly in the general elections 2018 as a candidate of Pakistan Muslim League (N) from NA-77 (Narowal-I).

### Shandana Gulzar Khan – RSW KPK 04



Shandana Gulzar Khan is an LLM graduate from the University of Cambridge. She has been elected as member of the National Assembly in 2018 as a candidate of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on a reserved seat for women from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Prime Minister Imran Khan has appointed her as Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Commerce.

### Sajida Khan – RS KPK 02



Sajida Begum was elected to the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab as a candidate of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on a reserved seat for women in the General Elections of 2018.

### Faiz Ullah Kamoka - NA 109



Faiz Ullah Kamoka holds an MBA degree from the University of Central Punjab. He has been elected as member of the National Assembly of Pakistan since August 2018 as a candidate of the ruling party, Pakistan- Tehreek-e- Insaaf. He was formerly elected to the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab as a candidate of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) from (Faisalabad- XVIII) during the General Elections of 2002.

### Wajiha Akram – RSW PUNJAB 31



Wajiha Akram is a graduate from the Lahore College. She was elected to the National Assembly of Pakistan as a candidate of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on a reserved seat for women from Narowal during General Elections of 2018. Prime Minister Imran Khan has appointed her as the Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Federal Education and Professional Training.

### Ramesh Lal – NON MUSLIM 8



Dr. Ramesh Lal is has done his MBBS from Karachi University. Mr. Ramesh Lal has previously served as a member of the National Assembly from 2008 to May 2018. He was elected to the National Assembly of Pakistan as a candidate of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) on a seat reserved for minorities twice before. He was once again elected to the National Assembly as a candidate of PPP on a reserved seat for minorities during the General Elections of 2018.

### Nausheed Hamid – RSW PUNJAB 25



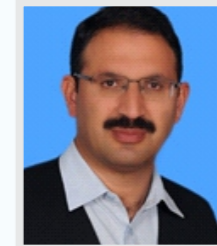
Nausheen Hamid hold a MBBS from DOW Medical Karachi. She has previously served as a Member of the Provincial Assembly Punjab twice earlier. She was then elected to the National Assembly as a candidate. Prime Minister Imran Khan appointed her as Federal Parliamentary Secretary for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination.

### Asad Mehmood - NA- 37



Asad Mehmood has done his Undergraduate Program from Gomal University. She was elected to the National Assembly of Pakistan as a candidate of Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal in the General Election of 2018.

### Junaid Akber – NA 08



Junaid Akbar holds a MBA Degree from the Agriculture University of Peshawar. He has formerly served as a member of the National Assembly from June 2013 to May 2018. Mr. Akber got elected for the National Assembly as candidate of PTI from (Malakand Protected Area) during the General Elections of 2018.



NOMINATION OF SDGs TASK FORCE FROM PROVINCIAL & LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES

Balochistan



Punjab



Gilgit Baltistan






NOMINATION OF SDGs TASK FORCE FROM PROVINCIAL & LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa










**PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS**  
**Private member Bills Introduced**

Date	Brief Subject	By
18th September, 2018	The Pakistan Psychological Council Bill, 2018.	 Mr. Riaz Fatyana
18th September, 2018	The Home Based Business Opportunities for Destitute Women Bill, 2018.	 Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak
6th November, 2018	The Islamabad Examination Commission Bill, 2018.	 Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak

**Resolution**

18th September, 2018	The Government should initiate awareness programmes on media regarding anti-papilloma virus in the girls below the age of thirteen years likely to be transmitted to others.	 Dr. Nausheen Hamid
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**Calling Attentions**

18th September, 2018	Regulations and Coordination to a matter of urgent public importance regarding existence of polio virus in potable water in the surrounding areas of Nala Lai, Rawalpindi, causing grave concern amongst the public	 Dr. Nausheen Hamid
26th September, 2018	Expected outbreak of dengue fever in Islamabad Capital Territory due to positive symptoms/viral titer found in patients in two allied hospitals, causing grave concern amongst the public.	 Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak
17th October, 2018	Removal of encroachments from the land of forest in Islamabad to protect environment too, causing grave concern amongst the public.	 Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak
30th October, 2018	Non-redressal of the grievances of poor fishermen of coastal area while constructing East Express Way from Gawadar, causing grave concern amongst the public.	 Mr. Muhammad Akhtar Mengal