



# Collective

May 2007



The Mohanas, the indigenous population of Manchar fishing in the now polluted waters of Manchar Lake

“ 50 percent of all men over 15 years and 90 percent of all women over 15 years in the Manchar area, live below the poverty line. A quarter of the men over 15 years and 85% of the women over 15 years in the Manchar area are without jobs.

Source: SEF Situation Analysis on Manchar Lake

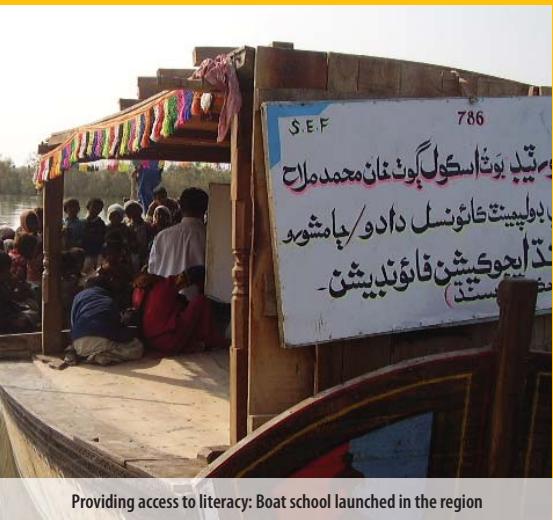
## SEF's Innovations: Revisiting Manchar

Manchar Lake, Dadu, the largest freshwater reserve in Asia, is dying a painful death. The dumping of effluents and pollution combine to threaten the delicate ecosystem of the lake. The Mohanas, the fisherman caste of the Manchar area and one of the oldest inhabitants of Sindh, have a unique lifestyle of residing in boats. Today they are on the verge of extinction.

The forces of deprivation have overpowered the local populace of Manchar Lake. The numbers draw an upsetting picture. 50 percent of all men (over 15 years) and 90 percent of all women (over 15 years) in the Manchar area, live below the poverty line. A quarter of the men (over 15 years) and 85% of the women (over 15 years) in the Manchar area are without jobs. Locals largely rely on fishing, bird hunting, net making, fish marketing, boat making and farming. However, saline and toxic effluents from the Main Nara Valley Drain, part of the Right Bank Outfall Drain (RBOD) system has been extremely damaging for the environment. The figures are absolutely appalling: the present level of toxic particles in Manchar Lake is more than 8000 parts per million (ppm) in comparison to the consumable level of about 800 ppm.

Sadly, a majority of the Manchar communities have little or no access to health facilities. Poor housing, uncontrolled population and poverty have ensured the prevalence of tuberculosis, anemia, malnutrition and gastroenteritis amongst the plethora of diseases. Almost 80% of the women and children suffer from one disease or the other. The morbidity rate in the area is high, as safe drinking water is not available. Infant and maternal mortality rates are on the rise; disease has become a way of life. Due to the dearth of proximate health facilities, Manchar communities have to travel long distances on their rickety carts, nearly always leading to fatal consequences. A large majority of the population of Manchar do not have access to schools. Three quarters of the boys and 84 percent of the girls in the age group between 5-15 years have never been to school.

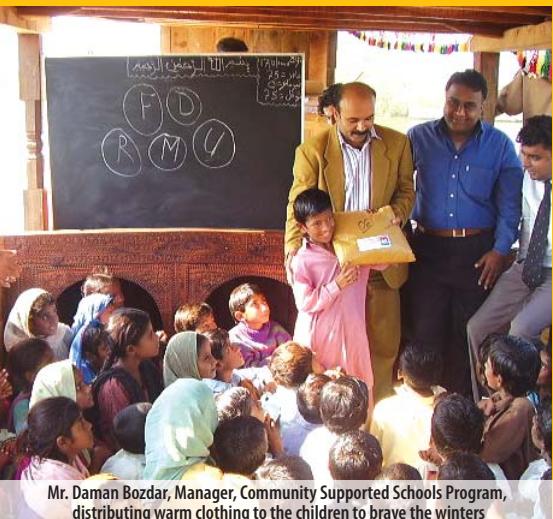
Things are bleak but not hopeless. The Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) has a broad agenda which not only includes the provision of educational opportunities but also that of health in the community. Recently, the Foundation has inaugurated a boat school in the Manchar area and set up a health camp in one of the villages of the lake.



Providing access to literacy: Boat school launched in the region



Free checkups being conducted during the health camp



## Boat School Launched in Manchar Lake

SEF's Community Supported Schools Program has launched a boat school in the village of Khan Mohammed Mallah in the Manchar Lake, nearly 30 kilometers away from Sehwan. The boat school has been set up with an investment of Rs. 250,000 and aims to provide educational opportunities to more than 200 children of the locality. A major portion of the inhabitants of the region belong to a historical community of fisher-folk who face immense hardships as a result of state neglect. Owing to the requirements of their trade the people of the region usually live in boats rather than on land. As a result it made sense to establish the local school in a boat.

The boat school has a library which provides community children access to a range of books and learning material. The Foundation regularly monitors the boat school and facilitates the students to appear for the Sindh Board Annual Examinations. The boat school has infused hope, enthusiasm and joy in this tiny village especially amongst children. SEF has plans to replicate the boat school model in other communities of the Manchar area where education is still a hope that needs to be fulfilled.

## Health Camp Set Up in Manchar Lake

Lack of educational opportunities is one of the many predicaments that the Manchar community faces. Pollution by industrial effluents of this fresh water reserve has contaminated the water of Manchar and has left the community suffering from a plethora of water-borne diseases. To address this health concern, SEF has developed various strategies which includes the implementation of a health education component in the boat school to educate children about preventive health measures.

SEF also plans to regularly set up health camps in the area to improve the health status of children, women and community members. SEF recently set up a health camp in the area where about 350 patients comprising primarily of women and children, received free-of-cost checkups from doctors. In this regard, the Johi Organization for Rural Development and Natural Disasters (JORDAN) and Benson Pharmaceuticals supported the Foundation's effort by donating medicines and arranging for doctors for the health camp set up in the area.

## Warm Clothing Provided to Manchar Lake Communities

Developing countries often face wide disparity in the standards of living of their populations. Such is the case of Pakistan where some are enjoying a life of luxury and wealth whereas some fall far below the poverty line; living in abject misery and deprived of even the most rudimentary necessities of life. Owing to their economic desolation Manchar communities also face an acute shortage of basic necessities such as warm clothing during winters. During the winter season the Foundation gathered a few funds from its employees and friends and provided winter wear to about 250 children of Manchar including clothes for boys and girls, socks, shawls, caps, sweaters and shoes. In this regard the Foundation would like to express their gratitude to Jaffer Brothers, Pakistan Cotton Fashion Apparel, Ms. Masuma Lotia and Ms. Bina Shah for their generous contribution to help the people of Manchar.

Interested individuals and organizations can contact the Sindh Education Foundation if they would like to contribute in cash or kind to the communities residing in the Manchar Lake region.

# Launching Ceremony of Research Report on "Documenting Educational Innovations"



Federal Minister for Education, Lt. Gen. Javed Ashraf Qazi (2<sup>nd</sup> from the right) speaking at the launching ceremony of the report in Islamabad

Alongside mainstream education practices there has been a parallel emergence of many innovative models, pioneered largely by the civil society in response to the inflexibility of the public and private education systems in catering for the differential learning needs of marginalized children i.e. girls and working children.

In this regard, the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) provided a much needed academic forum in December 2006 for education planners of the country to advocate for innovative practices and stronger partnerships between the public, private and civil sector to overcome challenges faced by the educational system of the country. This forum also served as a report launching ceremony for a research study entitled 'Documenting Educational Innovations'.

The research study focused on the translation of 'innovative' ideas into educational practices in the provinces of Sindh and Punjab and was conducted by the Sindh Education Foundation with support of the Commonwealth Education Fund.

The research study was responsive to the fact that while the public education system of Pakistan continues to reform in order to respond to the seemingly insurmountable challenges of access, enrolment, retention and, quality there has been a parallel emergence of many innovative models and practices of diverse size and magnitude within the civil society. In order to explore different educational innovations currently within the sphere of the civil society, the research study was carried out with a focus of opening possibilities of sharing 'innovative' ideas and practices for large-scale replication within the public and private education system. Innovative models reviewed under this research study include both 'indigenous' as well as 'replicable' models that have been customized according to the local needs. However, preference has been given to those models which have been developed, primarily, to cater to the needs of the 'marginalized' including girls and working children.

During the research report launching ceremony in Lahore, Islamabad and Karachi, a panel discussion was conducted where the panelists stressed that the country's education system suffers from poor infrastructure and a dearth of trained professionals. The process of creating an education system that is appropriate for the diverse people of Pakistan, with the right mix of local, national and international elements is a process that will take both time and the willingness to experiment.

Honorable Lt. Gen (Retd.) Javed Ashraf Qazi, Federal Minister for Education, Mian Imran Masood, Provincial Minister for Education, Government of Punjab and Dr. Hamida Khuhro, Provincial Minister for Education, Government of Sindh were the chief guests at the ceremonies in Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi respectively. Dr. Syed Babar Ali, Pro Vice Chancellor, Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) and Dr. Adibul Hassan Rizvi, Director, Sindh Institute of Urology & Transplantation presided as Guests of Honor for the event held at Lahore & Karachi respectively.

The core message of the events was to ensure commitment from the government and the people of Pakistan, the donor and NGO community to support the public education system through its difficult time. The events also emphasized the role of the government to support new ideas and innovations in education and their willingness to allocate more funds to the education sector.



From right to left: Dr. Hamida Khuhro, Provincial Minister for Education, Govt. of Sindh, Prof. Anita Ghulam Ali, Managing Director, SEF, Prof. Abbas Husain, Director, Teacher Development Centre & Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider

## Recommendations of the Research:

- Government must strengthen their commitment to support new ideas and innovations in education.
- Parents, communities, principals and teachers must take a more active role in running the education system and in trying new ideas and innovations.
- Donors and NGOs must be willing to provide new ideas, information, training and resources required for stabilizing and strengthening the education system.

### Read the Research Findings Online

A section on 'Innovations in Education' has been developed on SEF's website. This section offers an insight into the study outlining the salient features of the research. Users can also download a copy of the research. For more details log on to [www.sef.org.pk/iie.html](http://www.sef.org.pk/iie.html)



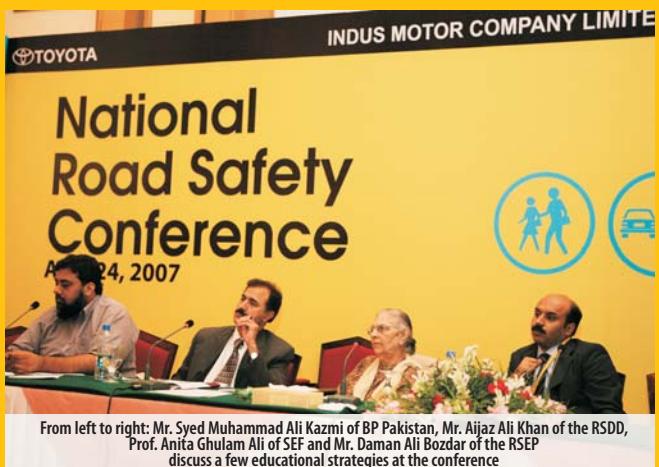
From left to right: Mr. Aziz Kabani, Dr. Arfa Sayeda Zehra, Prof. at LUMS, Mian Imran Masood, Minister for Education, Government of Punjab, Dr. Syed Babar Ali, Pro Vice Chancellor, LUMS at the launch ceremony in Lahore

## National Road Safety Conference - 2007

Karachi suffers from some of the worst road accident rates in the world. 5.6 deaths took place in the city for every 10,000 vehicles (Source: Department of Civil Engineering, NED University - 2002). Good traffic systems in cities are less than 2.5 deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles. These revelations came forth at the National Road Safety Conference, held in Karachi on April 24, 2007 by the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF), Road Sector Development Directorate (RSDD), Works and Services Department, Government of Sindh and Indus Motor Company (IMC). The day long event was attended by hundreds of participants from the civil, corporate, and public sector. The Chief Guest of the event was the Adviser to the Sindh Chief Minister on Home Affairs, Mr. Waseem Akhtar.

Mr. Ajiaz Ali Khan, Director General, RSDD, in his address highlighted efforts made by the government in creating awareness and implementing effective policies to improve road safety in Sindh. He also elaborated on the role played by the Sindh Road Agency (SRA), the Sindh Road Fund (SRF), Road Accident Data System (RADDS) in the policy making process. Dr. Rasheed Jooma, Director of Jinnah Post Graduate Medical Centre (JPMC), in his presentation said that more than five hundred people had died in road mishaps in the city during the last seven months, the majority of whom were motorcyclists and pedestrians. Mr. Parvez Ghias, CEO of Indus Motor Company stressed on the need to minimize traffic accidents and traffic congestion, especially in the face of increasing vehicle population and mentioned that Toyota has undertaken measures to improve vehicle performance and reduce environmental impact.

In her concluding address, Prof. Anita Ghulam Ali, Managing Director of the Sindh Education Foundation, highlighted the importance of Road Safety Education in minimizing accidents and in complementing enforcement measures. She was of the opinion that efforts in ensuring compliance with traffic laws and safety regulations can only be successful if accompanied by public education and awareness efforts. In this regard, she pointed to the pioneering educational initiative of the Road Safety Education Program as an example in spearheading such educational and awareness efforts. The event comprised five concurrent sessions from which a range of experts presented their recommendations to improve the standard of road safety in Karachi in particular and Pakistan in general. The five panel discussions were: corporate sector's role in road safety; health sector's role in road safety; education's sector role in road safety; enforcement of traffic systems and engineering sector's role in road safety. To learn more about the recommendations that were given by the discussants during the conference log on to [www.sef.org.pk/rsep.asp](http://www.sef.org.pk/rsep.asp).



Arts and crafts material developed by the children studying in SEF's schools

## SEF Exhibits its Arts and Crafts

- In November 2006, the Sindh Education Foundation participated in a mela organized by the Behbud Association to promote and sell material developed by the students of SEF's schools. Arts & crafts developed by the students & learners of the SEF's Community Supported Schools Program, Child Labor Education Program and Women's Literacy & Empowerment Program were put on display and sold to interested buyers. The funds collected during the mela were distributed to the young artists in return of their creative craftwork.
- SEF also participated in the Women's Expo held during February, 2007. Items made by the children of SEF's Community Supported Schools Program and learners of the Women's Literacy & Empowerment Program were displayed in the mela. The funds raised were used for charitable purposes.

Individuals interested in purchasing material developed by SEF's young artists can contact the Marketing, Advocacy & Publications Unit at 111-424-111 (Ext: 211)

# An Interview with Mr. Muhammad Amin Ahmedani Founder of Amin Educational School (AES)



**Q** From your point of view, how important is girls' education?

Education is a necessity for every girl, as it helps her in her role as a mother, a sister, a daughter and a wife. In today's day and age where the cost of living is so high, girls can easily support their family and education plays a pivotal role in helping them achieve a job.

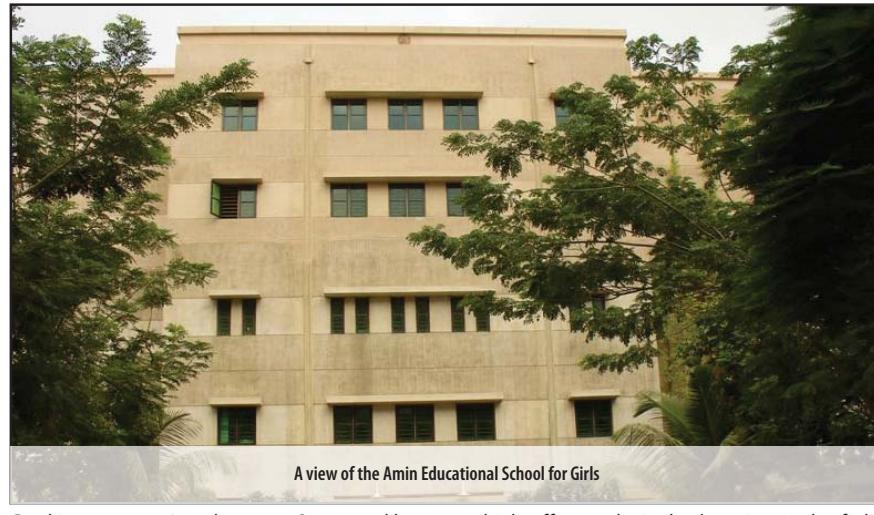
**Q** Why did you specifically focus on establishing an all girl's school?

There were basically two reasons for it. Firstly, at the time when the Amin Educational School (AES) was established, there were no other girls' schools in the vicinity of

provided a clean environment and our school is one such abode.

**Q** Who have been the important role players in making your initiative a success?

There have been quite a few players who have been inspirational in terms of giving advice as well as financial support. In this regard I am thoroughly grateful to the Sindh Education Foundation which provided us grant-in-aid during the crucial phase of our construction. Later the Asian Development Bank loan was utilized for the purchase of furniture and equipments for our Technical Institute of Professional Development for Women. This is another innovative project



A view of the Amin Educational School for Girls

Gulistan-e-Jauhar. Secondly, temperamentally, as compared to boys, girls are more serious and hard working in educating themselves.

**Q** Kindly tell us a bit about your school, when did you start the intervention and what impact is it having on the surrounding community?

This school was started in the year 1998, and was inaugurated by the renowned educationist and the Managing Director of the Sindh Education Foundation, Prof. Anita Ghulam Ali. We faced quite a few challenges in the beginning but gradually we gained popularity because of the good quality of education we offer for female students.

**Q** Tell us a bit about the geographical area you are working in. Are there any other needs which need to be catered?

In the area where the school is built, there is no proper sanitation, the area also faces water shortage and the law and order situation is a huge issue. In the midst of all this is our school; it's a relief for sore eyes with its green patches, trees and sprawling creepers. As Prof. Anita aptly said, it is definitely an oasis in this concrete jungle. We feel that it is essential for children to be

which offers technical education in the field of Information & Technology.

**Q** What facilities does the AES offer that other schools in the vicinity lack?

In terms of the school's construction and design, it was meticulously planned keeping in mind the general requirements of the students. The furniture was also especially designed considering the age of the students.

The Montessori Section is the most attractive part of our school. We have highly dedicated teachers who follow a teaching methodology standard at par with international standards. Besides this, the classrooms offer a fun-filled and comforting environment for the children. The school also offers computer education from a very early age - about three and a half years. The school has three well equipped computer labs which are used to provide computer education. In addition to academics, the school also has a well equipped library which has books as well as multimedia resources such as CDs and videos.

Most importantly, our syllabus is affiliated with the Cambridge International System. Our students passed with flying colors in the 2006 examinations. We opted for the

Cambridge system as it is of high standard and is also recognized internationally which would then support our students to continue their education with ease in any part of the world. We are also affiliated with the Aga Khan University Exam Board for our Matric System.

**Q** What is your opinion on the state of education in Pakistan?

The state of Education in Pakistan is deplorable. However, I must mention that there are some private organizations and NGOs that are working hard towards the promotion of quality education.

In our education system, there is a great shortage of good teachers. Unfortunately, in Pakistan if an individual can't find a job then he/she becomes a teacher. As far as we are concerned we only go for highly qualified and experienced teachers, paying them a handsome salary. We also send our teachers for further training to renowned training institutes such as TRC, SPELT, Aga Khan University, British Council etc.

**Q** We would like to know you better at a personal and professional level; can you please tell us something about yourself?

I am from a business/industrialist background. Education was my wife's profession. She was the headmistress of Habib Public Boys School and then started her own school which was shut down as the premises were rented out to someone else. This really hurt me and I decided to acquire an amenity plot for a school. In 1995, Gulistan-e-Jauhar lacked good quality educational institutes so I thought that this vast locality would benefit if a top quality educational institute was built here. With the help of the Sindh Education Foundation I was able to materialize this wonderful dream.



Girls busy in the science laboratory of the school

Mr. Muhammad Amin Ahmedani is working as an educationist in Karachi.

# Health Initiatives in the Child Labor Education Program

Health education has always been a crucial component of the Child Labor Education Program's Child Development Center (CDC). With the implementation of different health programs at the CDC, the center now serves as an essential component of health education and facilities for its students and community members. The following health related activities were organized at the Child Development Center:

- An informative session on 'Fundamentals of Health' was arranged at the Child Development Center (CDC), Shershah on December 19, 2006 by Ms. Sirajunnisa Isani. Tailored specifically for the female community members and teachers of the schools in the Shershah area, the health session educated the participants on basic health issues. Sindh Education Foundation intends to make health sessions a regular feature in the Shershah area so that more members of the community can benefit from learning about crucial, relevant and applicable health principles. (Ms. Isani has been working as a nurse in Karachi and abroad. She has always been a keen supporter of programs that reach out to provide quality health services to children everywhere. She has also regularly supported the programs of the Sindh Education Foundation on occasions).
- During the National Polio week, a polio camp was set up at the CDC, Shershah by the Rural Health Center. The Rural Health Center is a government established center providing basic health services such as medicines and vaccinations free of cost to the community members. The vaccination camp at the CDC provided polio vaccination to more than 200 children all between the ages of 3-5 years in the Shershah area. Door-to-door visits were conducted by the Community Support Officers and the doctors of the Rural Health Center to administer the polio vaccine on children who could not come to the polio camp.
- Free of cost dental checkups were provided to approximately 250 students of the Sindh Education Foundation's Child Development Center (CDC) at Shershah by a leading dental institute of Karachi – Altamash Institute of Dental Medicine. The beneficiaries mainly comprised groups of children who work in various industries at Shershah and also manage to take out time to study at the Child Development Center (CDC).

## Updates from the Women's Literacy & Empowerment Program



### Inauguration of Vocational Centers for Women

Amongst SEFs various initiatives the Women's Literacy and Empowerment Program (WLEP) has always been at the forefront in providing income generating opportunities to empower women of low-income communities.

Recently WLEP inaugurated two vocational centers to impart skill development courses on tailoring and dressmaking to the women. The centers have been established in Chashma Goth and Mitho Khan Khaskhali Village in Sehwan and are currently providing vocational training to 50 learners. The program is also undertaking efforts to market the handicrafts developed by the learners.



### Community Workshop on Gender Equity and Conflict Resolution

A community workshop on gender equity and conflict resolution was organized at Khaskheli Para - Rehri Goth in Malir District. 28 community members (males and females) attended the workshop during which many important issues were addressed. The workshop was organized to promote gender equality and peaceful conflict resolutions techniques within the communities.

The workshop served as an educational and interactive endeavor where participants were educated on the concept of conflict resolution through various interesting group activities. Participants were also apprised of various techniques of resolving conflicts and were informed on how to practically implement these techniques in their lives.



### A Critical Review

POLICIES | IMPLEMENTATION | QUALITY OF EDUCATION

## Research Study Conducted on Education For All

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 declaring the right to education as the fundamental right for everyone. All member states ratified the agreement yet 100 million children have no access to primary education today. The Dakar Framework of Action outlines the goals of Education For All (EFA) and envisions that by 2015 there will be universal primary access to education.

To analyze the situation in Sindh, vis-a-vis implementation of EFA strategies, a research was awarded to the Sindh Education Foundation by the Commonwealth Education Fund. The research study was conducted to evaluate the framework and application of EFA and its impact on the quality of education in Pakistan particularly in Sindh. The main focus of the study was to gauge the impact of EFA on quality of education. The report was formally launched during March, 2007 at a ceremony held at a local hotel in Karachi. The ceremony was organized by the Sindh Education Foundation in collaboration with the Commonwealth Education Fund and UNESCO. Dr. Hamid Khuhro, Provincial Minister for Education, Govt. of Sindh was the Chief Guest of the ceremony.



Mr. Amar Jaleel speaking at the EDucate! Series discussion

## EDucate! Series Discussion

The Sindh Education Foundation organized a talk for one its more intellectually charged publications - EDucate!

EDucate! is Pakistan's first quarterly magazine on education and development, and has been initiated by SEF to advocate its core aim of "empowering communities for social change" through academic and intellectual resistance to lopsided development and globalization approaches. This concept of social change has stemmed from empirical evidence of the absence of a thought-provoking environment, resulting in a top-down, outcome and statistics-oriented educational system.

The first talk of EDucate! Series, titled 'Literature & Social Change', was organized in November 2006. The session hosted a well known thinker and writer as its guest speaker - Mr. Amar Jaleel. Mr. Jaleel spoke without restraint about the challenges that the arts and literature face in the present era. According to him, prominent among them were the increasing dominance of the visual media in peoples lives, the growing assault of commercialism on the production of art, and last but not the least, the repressive political culture that permeates Pakistani society. Given these daunting challenges he also addressed the audience on how the production of quality literature could be revived and how it could once more play an active part in advocating resistance to hegemonic structures.

Individuals interested in attending future talks on the EDucate! Series can contact the Sindh Education Foundation at 111-424-111 (Ext: 211)

## Third issue of Parwarish Published

The third issue of Parwarish, a bi-annual magazine on Early Childhood Development is now available for interested readers. A must read for parents & teachers and other care-givers charged with the responsibility of ensuring a healthful and nurturing lifestyle of children, this issue comprises articles on nutrition, immunization, hygiene, disease prevention and various other fundamental topics related to health & hygiene. To make learning about health issues more fun for children, a health oriented board game is also a part of this issue.

If you are interested in getting your own free copy of Parwarish, contact the Sindh Education Foundation at 111-424-111 (Ext: 211) or write to us at [nurture@ecd pak.com](mailto:nurture@ecd pak.com) with your complete contact details. You can also download electronic versions of Nurture and Parwarish from [www.ecdpak.com](http://www.ecdpak.com).

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## Safety wise

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### RSEP Latest

- Mr. Fazlur Rahman, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Sindh initiates RSEP.
- Interactive Government level workshop held in 3 districts
- SEF conducts baseline survey in targeted districts

[view all](#)

### What is RSEP

The Road Safety Education Program (RSEP) intends to keep children safe on the roads through education and awareness. This pioneering project is being implemented in four districts of Sindh. RSEP has been launched by the Sector Development Directorate (RDD) with the technical support of the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) and the financial support of the Asian Development Bank (ADB).



[View Results](#)

### RSEP Quiz

Warning road signs are mostly  
 Triangular  
 Rectangular  
 Circular  
 None of the above

[Submit](#)

## Road Safety Education Online

A Road Safety Education section has been newly introduced to the SEF website. This section aims to promote the significance of learning about road safety. It also provides access to research material and educational resources for those who are working in the field of road safety education. The website also offers educational and entertaining resources for children including games pertaining to road safety. To become road smart, log on to [www.sef.org.pk/rsep.asp](http://www.sef.org.pk/rsep.asp)



Dr. Shirin Tahir-Kheli, Senior Advisor on Women's Empowerment to Secretary of State, Ms. Condoleezza Rice visits Prof. Anita Ghulam Ali

## Ambassador Dr. Shirin Tahir-Kheli visits SEF

Dr. Shirin Tahir-Kheli, Senior Advisor on Women's Empowerment to Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice visited SEF's head office in Karachi to learn about the Foundation's contribution in providing literacy skills and ensuring sustainable livelihood for women. Managing Director of the Foundation, Prof. Anita Ghulam Ali briefed her on the Women's Literacy and Empowerment Program and the strategies undertaken by the program to empower women. The Managing Director emphasized that the priority of the Foundation is to provide literacy as well as to develop the skills of women in rural areas of Sindh. Dr. Shirin appreciated the role of the Foundation in acting as facilitators to empower women.

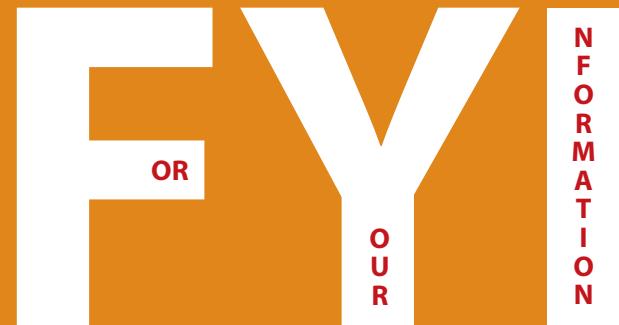
## RCC Programme Extended for Five Years

The Releasing Confidence and Creativity (RCC) Programme will continue to implement Early Childhood Development interventions across the public sector in Pakistan for another five years. The RCC Programme will be implemented in katchi class, class 1 and class 2 of more than 200 schools across Sindh, Balochistan and the Northern Areas. The programme will be supported by the Royal Netherlands Agency and coordinated by the Aga Khan Foundation, Pakistan. Sindh Education Foundation will continue its role of providing technical support in areas of advocacy, publications and research for promoting Early Childhood Development efforts within Pakistan.

# Sindh Education Foundation

## A BIRD'S EYE VIEW

### organizational framework



- On April 26, 2007 SEF organized a road safety seminar in collaboration with the National Highways & Motorway Police. The event aimed to accentuate the importance of road safety and the efforts undertaken by the highway authorities in improving safety on roads. Honorable Mr. Muhammad Shamim Siddiqui, Federal Minister for Communications was the chief guest at the ceremony.
- Ms. Sana-e-Zehra Haidry of the Learning Support Unit attended the second International Psychiatric Conference of the SAARC Psychiatric Federation (SPF). The conference titled "Social Conflicts and Mental Health – Challenges to Psychiatrists", was held in Kathmandu, Nepal in November 2006. Ms. Haidry presented a research paper titled "Screening of emotional and behavioral problems and associated social factors among 5-11 years old school children in Karachi", which is being published in international psychiatric journals.
- Ms. Tehreem Husain of the Marketing, Advocacy & Publications Unit, Sindh Education Foundation was offered a report writing consultancy by OXFAM for a workshop conducted in December, 2006. OXFAM conducted this workshop to raise awareness of the plight of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) across the globe and in Pakistan.
- Mr. Abdul Munim Khan and Ms. Tooba Fatima, members of SEF's creative designing team, attended a design conference on February 10-11, 2007 Karachi arranged by the British Council. The conference aimed at elucidating the conceptual framework behind the design of publications keeping in mind important elements such as the culture of the organization and other related factors.
- A delegation from the SEF visited the Punjab Education Foundation to review the World Bank's voucher system being implemented by the Foundation in schools across Punjab. The project focuses on improving access and quality of education within disadvantaged areas of Punjab.

### Global Action Week Celebrated in Sindh



Mr. Nasir Jamali, DCO-Larkana, presents the teachers with their certificates



Mr. Mukhtar Janwari, EDO Works-Larkana, distributes certificates during the event



Ms. Naheed Abbasi, SEF-Larkana, during the certificate distribution ceremony



Mr. Ibrahim Maznani, SEF-Sehwan, distributes certificates



Mr. Rustam Samejo, EDO-Hyderabad, addresses the participants



Ali Hyder, CSS Teacher, Qambar shares his reflections from the field

In the year 1990, UNESCO held a conference in Jomtein, Thailand to mark a commitment to achieve Education for All (EFA). Since that conference, every year, in order to reminisce the EFA goals that were set out to achieve, UNESCO celebrates a Global Action Week during April 23-29. This year, SEF, with the support of UNESCO, celebrated the Global Action Week in the districts of Larkana, Sehwan and Hyderabad.

The activities during the event aimed to honor teachers and community members from SEF's partner schools. Teachers from SEF's Adopt-A-School Program, Community Supported Schools Program, Fellowship Schools Program, Home Schools Program, Women's Literacy and Empowerment Program and members of the school management bodies shared their experiences in the provision of quality education during these events.

People in large numbers turned out for the event. The chief guest at the ceremonies included Mr. Nasir Ahmed Jamali, DCO Larkana (Larkana), Mr. M. Sajan Mallah, EDO Education Matiari (Hyderabad) and Mr. Sikander Rahpoto, Taluka Nazim Sehwan (Sehwan).

Log on to the SEF website [www.sef.org.pk](http://www.sef.org.pk) for more information on SEF Programs, Units and Activities

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