THE HOPE

Punjab Education Foundation (PEF)

PROMOTING QUALITY EDUCATION THROUGH PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Inside

- Message From Board of Directors
- PEF Initiatives
- Public Private Partnership as a Vehicle to Promote Affordable Quality Education by Dr. Allah Bakhsh Malik
- National Seminar on Quality Assurance in Education
- Secondary level Teachers’ Training at WWB
- Presentation to the Punjab Chief Minister by the Chairperson PEF
- Letters to the Editor
- PEF-FAS High Achievers
Message From Board Of Directors

Dr. Fareeha Zafar

Mrs. Shaista Pervaiz Malik

Mrs. Rubina Tariq Jilani

The Board of Directors has ensured that PEF is an equal opportunity organization with a stated gender policy providing a conducive working environment for women. In the interest of gender parity and equality, today more girls and women are benefiting from the foundation’s programmes than ever before. The Foundation Assisted Schools programme and the rapidly expanding Teacher Training programme have increased opportunities for quality education for girls and women in the province.

Are things going to be different for us in the future?....No...and definitely not without education! We all need to take it up as a 'jihad' and fight illiteracy and poverty. We need to make concerted efforts and think as a nation.... and to create hope.... a hope born of vision.... a hope born of practical policies... and a hope born of hard work!!! Prosperity is not possible through education alone... but only through 'quality' education...and the education of our women...or the future will be no different than the past.

Punjab Education Foundation is making its contribution in bringing about this change.... and I wish the team Good Luck!!!

Illiteracy and ignorance are main hurdles in the development of any country. Government is giving top priority to the promotion of education. It is our collective responsibility to provide proper facilities to the young generation. Youth of today possess remarkable capabilities; they should be guided and shown right path. Punjab Education Foundation’s aim is to bring quality into educational institutions for the better survival of the next generations and to provide opportunities for the success of every student.

We pride in the selfless service which is being offered in the process of transforming society.
Cluster Based Teachers’ Training of Private Educational Institutions through Public Private Partnership (CBT-PPP)

Professional Development and Capacity Building of the teachers of the private educational institutions is of immense importance to ensure quality education and impact the learning outcomes of the students. By now, Punjab Education Foundation has trained more than 7,550 teachers in 1900 schools in the province of Punjab covering all the districts of the province. PEF intends to impart training to all the teachers of the private educational institutions so that quality delivery of education at affordable cost could be ensured. Quality and not the quantity is the prime consideration of CBT-PPP. The program is cost effective, economical and suave in terms of outreach and has been widely appreciated by all the stakeholders in education for quality mentoring.

Foundation Assisted Schools (PEF-FAS)

Punjab Education Foundation is supporting at the moment 22,200 students in five districts of Punjab i.e. Chakwal, Lahore, Khushab, Sialkot and Bahawalpur, in the first phase of FAS. Under this program, PEF picks up the fee component of Rs.300/- and parents do not have to pay the fee of the child.

In order to ensure quality, Quality Assurance Tests (QAT) are administered after six months and students should get 40% marks. In the first phase, the program has received tremendous response. Quality mentoring and performance in the Quality Assurance Tests administered by the Foundation is the chief determinant for the continuation of the Partnership under PEF-FAS.

The expansion of FAS program for the second phase has been approved by the Board in the 29th meeting of the Board of Directors of PEF for another five districts i.e. Bahawalnagar, Gujrat, Narowal, Bhakkar and Mianwali.

There is huge response and PEF has received 600 applications in the second phase and after short listing Quality Assurance Tests are being administered in short listed schools. The selection of the school is made on the basis of criteria approved by the Board of Directors.

Eligibility Criteria for selection:

1. Geographical location of partner schools.
2. Physical infrastructure of the school.
3. Qualified and experienced faculty.
4. Quality Assurance Test before entering into the partnership agreement.

By the end of this year, PEF will be supporting more than 70,000 students in ten districts of Punjab.

Teaching in Clusters by Subject Specialists (PEF-TICSS)

"If kids come to us [educators/teachers] from strong, healthy functioning families, it makes our job easier. If they do not come to us from strong, healthy, functioning families, it makes our job more important." Barbara Colorose

It is not possible for low cost private educational institutions to engage teachers of high eminence and erudition at a higher salary due to resource constraint. PEF has launched TICSS scheme as pilot project in Lahore to facilitate the private educational institutions. The professionals of impeccable professional integrity are engaged by the Foundation and deputed in a cluster of three
schools. These subject specialists are not only impacting the learning outcomes of the students taught by them but they are also influencing the peers and associates in that school. TICSS has been expanded up to Jhelum, Rahimyar khan and Layyah.

**Education Voucher Scheme (PEF-EVS)**
Punjab Education Foundation is going to launch its Education Voucher Scheme shortly. Under this scheme, the parents and households will have the opportunity to select a school of their own choice. The vouchers will be redeemed only against payment of fees. EVS will ensure freedom of choice for beneficiaries, social cohesion, equity and productive efficiency. The scheme will be launched in September, 2006 in the slums of Lahore as a pilot project and later expanded to other slums in the province.

**Brain of Punjab (PEF-BOP)**
Punjab Education Foundation has taken another initiative for promotion of quality education and talent in the province, PEF is launching a scheme: The Brain of Punjab. As a pilot project, PEF has selected district Lahore.

Rationale of the scheme springs from the fact that teaching by the prescribed syllabi need to be supplemented with co-curricular activities to:

- Provide students with an opportunity to be involved in the systematic study and applications of knowledge.
- Improve general knowledge and stimulate thinking of students through creating a spirit of healthy and productive competition.
- Discover the hitherto, undiscovered talent.
- Encourage students to develop an interest in understanding the information given in textbooks.

**Academic Development Unit (ADU)**

**Secondary Level Teachers’ Training Workshop at WWB.**

The technological advancements of modern science have revolutionized our life patterns and introduced new concepts. Scientific education, research and trainings have a high place in the scheme of national construction. Government has also revised the syllabi to meet the new challenges and provide updated knowledge.

Most of the teachers are not acquainted with the new concepts and teaching methods; they need refresher courses and educational workshops to refine their capabilities. There is dearth of qualified resource persons for the training of secondary level teachers.

**Punjab Education Foundation** has accepted the challenge of providing quality education at secondary level and for the First time a Secondary Level cluster based teachers’ training workshop was conducted at Workers’ Welfare school Nishtar colony, Lahore. Teachers of Workers’ Welfare Board from all over Punjab attended the workshop. The workshop was designed to improve the content knowledge of **Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics.**

**The main focus of workshop was:**

- To clear the vague concepts.
- To introduce new advancements and modern technologies in the field of science.
- Familiarize the participants with different teaching methodologies.
- Formulation of Question Papers according to the modern techniques and patterns approved by the Board.
- Emphasis on conceptual knowledge instead of rote learning.

In the final evaluation, the participants found the workshop extremely beneficial and according to their needs, addressing the discrepancies in the content knowledge and teaching methodologies.
Public Private Partnership as a Vehicle to Promote Affordable Quality Education

Public Private Partnership is an efficient and time tested mechanism. This efficient, ensured, secure and transparent service delivery mechanism could be effectively employed to promote quality education at the affordable cost for the less privileged and marginalized sections of our society. The affordable quality education is the only viable conduit to prevent the societal plague of educational apartheid in a polity. Punjab Education Foundation has demonstrated that quality education at affordable cost is possible through Public Private Partnership.

It is almost a truism that quality education at higher levels of education is not possible without ensuring quality education at the level of the feeding institutions. There is sufficient empirical evidence in literature now that whatever human effort, one may employ to ensure quality at higher levels of education, the fact remains that it is extremely difficult to fill in the wide deep chasm of knowledge-lag created in terms of acquisition of knowledge at primary and secondary level. There is unanimity of views that it is a slow, gradual and patient process to build and further galvanize the level of human didactic resource base and there is no shortcut to this despite all the developments in genetic engineering so far.

In Public Private Partnership, the target of quality education is achieved through synergy, synchronization, shared knowledge, shared vision, pooled wisdom, shared common felt-need perceptions, shared accumulated wealth of expertise and available resources. In public private partnership, it is easier to ensure allocative efficiency and optimality in the utilization of resources in an effective, suave and transparent manner.

Public Private Partnership Model is being practiced in PEF in three important areas: Cluster Based Teachers’ Training PEF-CBT, Foundation Assisted Schools PEF-FAS, Teaching in Clusters by Subject Specialists PEF-TICSS and our forthcoming endeavor is Education Voucher Scheme PEF-EVS.

The quality education is assured primarily because of quality mentoring, quality and up gradation of curriculum, resilient management, conducive, congenial and enabling environment, good governance, transparent processes, rigorous and candid monitoring and evaluation, evaluative scrutiny and integration of the lessons learnt into the system for continuous improvement. We are sanguine that with the dedication and resilience the destination is not very far off.
National Seminar on Quality Assurance in Education.
A meeting of a special committee headed by Chairperson Punjab Education Foundation, Mr. Shahid Kardar with Punjab Chief Minister Ch. Pervez Elahi was held at Chief Minister’s Secretariat. Punjab Education Minister Mian Imran Masood, Chief Secretary Salman Siddique, Education Secretary Khalid Akhlaq Gillani, Special Secretary Finance Azmat Ali Ranjha, PEF Managing Director Dr. Allah Bakhsh Malik, DMD (Finance) Mr. Rana Muhammad Arif and other high ranking officers were also present.

Chairperson PEF elucidated upon all the initiatives aimed at improving affordable quality education in Public Private Partnership especially for less affluent and marginalized sections of society. He shared the institutional performance of PEF over a short period of time under the guidance of the new Board of Directors.

The Chief Minister said in pursuance of the Government’s policy to promote quality education through Public Private Partnership, the PEF was providing financial assistance to private schools having meagre resources and providing training opportunities to their teachers. He appreciated the institutional efforts under the chairman and Board of Directors of PEF, for promotion of education, especially for less affluent people.

Punjab Education Minister, Mian Imran Masood said coordinated efforts were being made to enhance the standard of education in private schools in accordance with the vision of the Chief Minister.

PEF Managing Director Dr. Malik dilated upon the administrative structure of the body and its role in the promotion of education in the province.
Prof. Dr. Hafiz M. Iqbal
Institute of Education and Research is the premier and prestigious institute of teacher education in the country. Since its inception, the IER has been engaged in preparing teachers for public schools and conducting research on issues of social importance. At present the IER is offering sixteen degree programs in the discipline, including Ph.D in education. During the last couple of decades or so there has been an accelerated growth of private schools in the country. It is a reality that private schools have become a full-fledged system in itself. However, in past, the IER, being a public sector institution did not have a close link with private schools. It was in this perspective in mind that after taking over as Director IER, I approached the MD PEF to explore the possibility of collaboration between IER and PEF. I am thankful to PEF, particularly its MD Dr. Allah Bakhsh Malik for deposing trust in IER for organizing cluster based training for teachers attached to PEF. The first workshop that IER arranged was for in-service teachers of low income schools in Lahore. It was a seven days workshop on English Language Teaching and it proved to be an effective link between Public and Private sector. It has been a wonderful experience of working with the private schools and the PEF. The purpose of this workshop was to build the capacity of the teachers of low income schools to teach English language. The content of the workshop includes content knowledge & pedagogical skills required for teaching language more effectively. On the basis of feedback provided by the participants, we feel happy to learn that it was a productive and fruitful exercise and provided an immense experience to the participants. We hope that this cooperation between IER and PEF will continue in future. We hope to hold similar workshops in other disciplines as well, particularly in teaching of science and mathematics, assessment of students learning and educational management, not only in Lahore but in other areas of Punjab as well.

Prof. Dr. Hafiz M. Iqbal
Director IER
University of the Punjab.

I take immense pleasure in congratulating The Punjab Education Foundation – PEF on the publication of its first Newsletter. This effort reflects the great concern of the higher authorities and diligent effort of PEF team to record every event in documented shape.

The Newsletter will definitely disseminate the information and highlight the major achievements of every quarter of the PEF projects. The name of the newsletter has also great significance and impact because it’s hope for every one of us.

The contents have been designed and written quite meticulously to highlight the dedication and commitment of the PEF to promote quality education for all. LIME has a firm belief and hope that this partnership will further enable us to contribute more and achieve more under the able guidance of PEF. Best of luck for the future endeavors.

Naseer Ahmed
LIME Lahore

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the Sanjan Nagar Public Education Trust, I take this opportunity to thank you for generously supporting the cause of Sanjan Nagar Public Education Trust.

We are highly grateful to Punjab Education Foundation for their commitment and encouragement for our school. The leadership of Managing Director, Dr. Allah Bakhsh Malik, and his high standards of social responsibility have impressed our Board tremendously. To fulfill our objectives we need sustained backing from your organization.

We look forward to your engagement with our institution, as our valued partner and supporter, to help Sanjan Nagar achieve milestones in human renewal through education and rebirth of social excellence.

Thank you once again for your help and commitment.

Best wishes

Yamina Razzaq
Coordinator, Trust office
Sanjan Nagar Public Education Trust.

PEF teachers’ training had an excellent impact on us. Attitude of Resource persons towards teaching & learning processes was natural; they had a very strong command on content knowledge. They introduced latest and updated concepts using the most advance technology (Multimedia, Animations, Models etc.) . Let me say that they have been an inspiration for all of us. I would personally recognize their efforts. They have got the energy; I hope that one day they would certainly gain their ultimate goal. I wish them all the best in rest of their future assignments.

Mubasshar Iqbal
WWB
Mr. Dost Muhammad student of Zaib Elementary Public School Lawa got First position in Primary Board Examination District Chakwal. He secured 242 marks out of 300.

Miss Tuba Larib of Zaib Elementary Public School Lawa got Second position by obtaining 791 marks out of 800 in Tehsil Talagang in Middle Standard Examination.

Miss Asma Bashir, Miss Kulsoom Fatima, Miss Saadia Sarwar and Miss Sumaira Liaquat of Sanjan Nagar Public Education Trust Girls High School, Lahore have passed Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Examinations with First Division in the first batch of the school.

Mr. Babar Hussain of Radiant High School for Boys Choa Saiden Shah, Chakwal secured 929 marks out of 1050 (A+ Grade) in Secondary School Annual Examination 2006.
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