



NEWSLETTER

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Message from the Senior Minister

Local Government, Elections and Rural Development Department



It is really a matter of great pleasure for me to see the first ever bi-annual Newsletter of the LG Department, issued with the aim to further reduce the gap between citizens of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the department through an effective mechanism of communication. The department's focus on communication is a commendable task, as it is in the lead to provide services to communities in the province. Updating citizens and stakeholders through various means, including this Newsletter, supports the vision of the government in terms of transparency, responsiveness and citizens' engagement in the public sector. Such endeavours on the part of the LG Department demonstrate that the department is striving hard to embark upon a new era of change; a change that is people-oriented in terms of development.

I am happy that after the recent approval of the LG Department Communication Strategy, the activities planned in the action plan (2016-20) are on fast track. The newly established Reforms Management Cell (RMC) of the department in collaboration and technical assistance from the partner organisations are making persistent efforts to achieve the goals set out in the Communication Strategy.

The LG department is determined to pave the way for result-oriented reforms in the area of local governance with the basic aim of serving the citizens of KP in the best possible manner.

Mr. Inayatullah Khan

Steps Towards Digitalisation of Information

The Local Government Elections and Rural Development Department (LGE&RDD) dynamic and vibrant website, www.lgkp.gov.pk, fosters a local government system in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa where public service providers as well as the recipients of these services can connect and interact with each other.

“ For the last six months, the website has an average of 50,000 viewers' hits per month ”

The homepage is not just a website or a platform for one way information exchange, rather the role of the web-enabled platforms have evolved tremendously to facilitate two-way communication with citizens and other stakeholders. The website also contributes immensely to public relations aspect of the department for more efficient communication with the stakeholders especially people across KP.



Peshawar Uplift and Beautification

The Peshawar Uplift and Beautification Programme, was launched by the incumbent government to improve, restore, rehabilitate and build civic facilities with the purpose to bring improvement in the over-all living standards in the provincial capital.

In this programme, work on some of the projects is already in process while a number of related projects for the construction and repair of roads, bridges, parks, picnic spots, supply of clean drinking water, sanitation, streamlining the traffic system, plantation and rehabilitation of the cultural heritage of the city are in the pipeline.

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Local Governance School

The Local Governance School (LGS) is the training institute of the Local Government, Elections and Rural Development Department (LGE&RDD), Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The school was notified in 2008 with the following mandate:

- To conduct pre-service trainings, refresher courses, seminars, workshops for all Local Council Service employees and elected representatives
- Coordinate all capacity building activities undertaken by local projects and development partners with the Local Government, Elections and Rural Development Department as well as the Tehsil Municipal Administrations (TMAs)
- Conduct trainings/orientations for other officers serving in the province regarding local governance and service delivery



Communication in Focus

Recently, the Local Government, Elections and Rural Development Department (LGE&RDD) approved *From Complexity To Clarity*, the Communication Strategy (2016-2020) for the Department with the aim to mainstream all communication related activities in an institutionalised and strategic manner.

The communication strategy as an internal policy document will guide and support the key functions of the department in terms of improved communication through proactive citizens' engagement, better media management and stronger information exchange.

The additional Secretary LGE&RDD, Mr. Barkat Ullah Khan while chairing the recent Communication Working Committee (CWC) meeting said, "We are strongly focussing on effective reforms management to deliver results for the betterment of citizens".

He added that the Department would allocate its own resources in addition to seeking support from partner organisations to launch different communication related activities as recommended in the strategy.

The communication strategy has been developed with the support of the German Federal Government through the Support to Good Governance Programme implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, which is one of the technical assistance partners of the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa since 2011.

... Peshawar Uplift and Beautification

The programme comprised of a number of measures aimed at enhancing security of the city. One example is the installation of high-tech security gates on all the major entry points to the city.

The extension of the city's main roads with green belts on both sides as well as of parks, walking and cycling tracks and multi-purpose sports stadiums are some of the other main development components of the programme.

Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Mr. Pervez Khattak has asked the concerned departments never to comprise on the quality of the development work and pay utmost attention to revive the old face of the neat and green Peshawar.

Project Updates

- Improvement/Repair of G.T Road and Jamrud Road from Peshawar Motorway interchange to Suray Pul and from KFC near Aman Chowk to Hayatabad Phase-III Chowk
- PC-I for soft development of site at confluences of Ring Road (M-I) Peshawar
- Feasibility study for establishment of Car Village and Bachat Bazar, Peshawar
- Widening and improvement of existing G.T Road from Zakori Bridge to Suray Bridge Peshawar (Section-I) and widening and improvement of existing Jamrud Road from Shama Chowk to Karkhano Peshawar (Section-II)
- Up-Gradation and widening of Charsadda Road to G.T Road section including bridges (4.7 Kms)
- Construction of Hayatabad Detour including service road (one side), Toll Plaza and three bridges (length 5.3 Kms) Phase-I, 2-KM
- Beautification from Motorway entry point to Malik Saad Shaheed Flyover

Beautification of Peshawar

- Re-carpeting of Khyber Road from Airport exit gate upto Mall Road Junction (Plant Carpeting)
- Re-carpeting of Mall Road from Sahibzad Gul Road up to Railway Patak
- Re-carpeting of Shershah Suri Road from Deans Trade Centre Chowk to Shahi Mehmankhana
- Re-carpeting of Faqir of Appi Road/Railway Road
- Re-carpeting of Sir Syed Road from Mall Road up to Khyber Road
- Improvement of centre median of Khyber Road.
- Road Marking (TP) on different roads in Peshawar Cantt
- Rehabilitation / improvement of parks in MC limits
- Beautification from Motorway entry point to Malik Saad Shaheed Flyover



... Steps Towards Digitalisation of Information



The department is also cognizant of the overwhelming importance of the social media and is therefore very active on Facebook and Twitter with the name of LocalGovtKP, to stay closer to citizens in terms of instantly available information and updates.

Similarly, other sub-ordinate offices of LG are also encouraged to develop their websites. So far the following offices have launched their websites:

Peshawar Development Authority (www.pda.gkp.pk)

Mardan Development Authority (www.mda.gkp.pk)

Galliyat Development Authority (www.gda.gkp.pk)

Swat Development authority (www.sdda.gkp.pk)

e-tendering System

The e-tendering system has been implemented in sub-ordinate offices of the department via a notification in the official gazette. Following additional features/systems have been integrated with the e-tendering system:

- Centralised contractors' enlistment and renewal system
- Automatic tender forms management system
- Secure tender form submission system
- Accountability/audit of the tendering process

RMC

REFORMS MANAGEMENT CELL
LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ELECTIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT,
HYDERABAD, KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

EFFECTIVE REFORMS MANAGEMENT - DELIVERING RESULTS

Reforms Management Cell

The purpose of the Reforms Management Cell is to plan, coordinate, monitor, and evaluate the ongoing reform activities and programmes agreed with the Development Partners and future reform activities and programmes.



Aims and Objectives

- Improved citizen participation and bringing the state closer to the citizens
- Outlining a framework for shared commitments of the Government and Development Partners
- Developing a common understanding of the local government system
- Setting the context for delivery of assistance of development partners for strengthening the local government system
- Overseeing the placement of systemic arrangements, resource allocation and support institutions

Municipal Services Programme Activities

Inauguration Ceremony of Community Mobilisation Project

The inauguration ceremony of the Municipal Service Programme (MSP) funded by the USAID project, "Effective Hygiene Promotion through Awareness Enhancement and Gender Responsive Municipal Services Delivery System," for 25 Union Councils of Town-1, was launched at Parda Bagh Peshawar.

The ceremony was arranged by the Foundation for Rural Development (FRD), where the Senior Minister for LGE&RDD, Mr. Inayatullah Khan was the chief guest.



Health and Hygiene Sessions in Schools

Awareness about hygiene is the best shield against spreading of diseases and guarantee a safe and healthy society. For this purpose, the Municipal Services Programme and its partner organisations, conducted a number of health and hygiene sessions in the government-run schools in Peshawar District. The purpose of this exercise was to raise awareness among students against diseases and good hygiene practices. The outcome of this exercise was very positive as children are important health and hygiene promoters since they share everything happened in school with their families and friends.



Field Visits for Settlement of Social Issues

The Community Development (CD) team of Project Management Unit (PMU) of MSP conducted a number of field visits to resolve social issues that came up during construction and rehabilitation of various sanitation works.

These visits were organised at more than seven Union Councils (UCs) in various parts of Peshawar in the last couple of months. The purpose was to reach out to citizens to hold dialogue with them on different sanitation projects and dispel their reservations over development initiatives at the sites.



Achievement Highlights After Formation of Elected Local Governments

- 1 The Provincial Government has allocated **Rs. 42 Billion** for Local Governments for 2015-16.
- 2 Urdu translation of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa **Local Government Act 2013 and Rules of Businesses** have been prepared, printed and are available on the Department's website.
- 3 The Government has approved **monthly honoraria and allowances** for all the Local Councilors and Nazimeen.
- 4 Elected Nazims have been notified to represent the local governments in the **Provincial Finance Commission** which determines their share out of the Provincial Consolidated Funds.
- 5 In response to the popular demand of the Village/Neighborhood Councils, the approval **procedure for the Annual Development Programme** has been simplified.
- 6 Special financial grant of **Rs. 200 Million** have been released to the District Councils in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to settle the staff salaries issues.
- 7 The Government has released **Rs. 500 Million** for the financially weak Tehsil Municipal Administrations.
- 8 Services of **2600 Village/ Neighborhood Councils Secretaries** have been hired in a transparent manner through the National Testing Service.
- 9 The Government has released **Rs. 1.75 Billion** to the Village/Neighborhood Councils to cover operational cost of offices.
- 10 The Education Department has issued special directives to **include the councillors in the Parent Teachers Councils**.
- 11 The Government has also decided to give special powers to the Village/Neighborhood Councils in amicable settlement of **petty disputes through mediation**.
- 12 The Government has specially notified placement of services of **60 engineers of the On-Farm Water Management Department** for utilisation at the Village/Neighborhood Councils.

International Partners At A Glance

Community-Driven Local Development (CDLD)

The implementation of the CDLD Policy, piloted in the six districts of Malakand Division (Chitral, Lower Dir, Malakand, Shangla, Swat and Upper Dir), is enabling the district authorities in identifying priority needs of the citizens through participatory bottom-up planning. The European Union is providing budget support for the programme during the four budget years (2014-2018). The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Government is also financially contributing to the CDLD Programme.

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Support to Good Governance Programme

GIZ on behalf of the German Government supports the performance and accountability of selected local governments and the Local Government Department in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. LGE&RDD is currently engaged with GIZ and the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) to design a new support to local governance programme, starting in 2017.

Sub-National Governance Programme (SNG)

The Sub-National Governance Programme (SNG) aims to support the provincial and district governments of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab to improve public services that meet the needs of the citizens, especially the poor including women and girls. The programme is funded by DFID.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

The UNDP's technical assistance focuses on institutional, administrative and fiscal responsibilities required for basic service delivery to local citizens.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governance Programme (KPG)

The USAID-funded Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governance Project is supporting the LGE&RDD in training of all elected councillors in Peshawar district, printing of training material, Rules of Business, Bylaws, LG P&D Guidelines, and Budget Rules, and Trainers' Manual in local languages, besides strengthening Peshawar City District Government by developing four/year strategic and sectoral planning.

Disclaimer:

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For feedback

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