

Awam Awaz

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DTCE
Empowering People

Devolution Trust for Community Empowerment

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Flood Affects Community Engagement Recovery (FACER)

Local Stakeholder (Union) Assemblies District Jamshoro

Devolution Trust for Community Empowerment (DTCE) is implementing Flood Affects Community Engagement Recovery (FACER) project in 29 flood effected districts of Pakistan. In district Jamshoro, Sindh the project is being facilitated by Indus Rural Development Organization (IRDO). The floods caused massive destruction in District Jamshoro. Government of Sindh declared the district as disaster affected as a large geographical area of the district is affected by the floods. 16 union councils from 3 taluka's (Tehsils) of district were affected.

DTCE in collaboration with the Union Secretary and the partner CSOs (IRDP) conducted a one day Local Stakeholder Assembly at 8 union councils from the Taluka Kotri and Sehwan at district Jamshoro. Participants included former Nazims, Naib Nazims, former Councilors, Union Council secretaries, women groups, community organizations and the general citizenry. Total 900 people including 804 male and 96 females participated in this event.

There were two sessions. Session one provided overall orientation. Mr. Sahukat Memon briefed the participants on the program and its purpose, outputs (CCBs, OWOs, CPDs), activities, methodology, benefits, and its utility for flood affected citizens especially women and vulnerable groups. He also explained the guidelines of CCBs and its funding.

The second session was held to obtain documented local need assessment in the form of sectoral priorities. The communities shared their requirements related to health, education, livelihoods, agriculture, WASH, works and services, and other communal issues which voiced their development needs. It was observed that most of communities almost have the common needs and problems (water supply schemes, drainage, streets, hospitals and schools). These Assemblies not only provided opportunity to identify the needs of flood affected communities through their participation but also to share their troubles that they are facing after floods due to non availability of their legal documents.



District Dadu

Union Council Stakeholder Assemblies were also organized in 27 flood affected Union Councils of Taluka Dadu, Johi, K N Shah and Mehar of District Dadu. The purpose of assemblies was to serve two objectives a) to introduce FACER project among all stakeholders and b) to obtain documented needs assessment and sectoral prioritization at union council level. Two partner CSOs, Sujag Sansar Organization (SSO) and Sindh Education Advocacy &



Rural Community Health (SEARCH) conducted the Union Stakeholder Assemblies.

Total 3566 participants of 640 flood affected villages attended the assemblies including 1368 women 2198 men citizens of respective UCs, Secretary /Administrators , Taluka Municipal Officers (TMOs), Government officials, CCBs, CBOs, Press Club and District Bar Association representatives attended /participated in the 27 Union Assemblies held in Union Councils head quarters. The washing away of important documents like national identity card, B-forms, marriage registration certificates (Nikahnama), house and property papers in last year's floods has created many issues for local populations.

District Shikar Pur

Local Stake holder/Union Assemblies were held in 30 flood affected unions of District Shikarpur. Large no



of participants (Male & Female) from all parts of The Union Councils attended the events.

One Window Operation (OWO)

One Window Operation facilities were opened in all the Union councils, Tehsil Municipal Administrations and at District Shikarpur for facilitating the flood affected community. OWO will facilitate the flood affected community in issuance of the lost documents, and in the identification and preparation of CCB projects.

Citizen Protection Desk (CPD)

CPD was opened at District Bar Shikarpur to provide free legal aid to flood affected community in CCB



registration, projects, and in the issuance of Lost Documents. CPD was inaugurated by Mr. Abdul Qadir Abro (Member Sindh Bar).

Press Forum

A press forum was held at District Press Club Shikarpur, for flood affected communities.

Project Cycle Management

Project Cycle Management training was held for the CCBs of flood affected union councils in district Shikarpur. Purpose of this training was to build their capacity on project formulation and also to prepare a project during the training as identified earlier during union assemblies. Two days PCM trainings were conducted in which CCBs designed their projects.

Police Community Relations Programme (PCRP)



DTCE's Police-Community Relations Program (PCRP) helps ensure coherent interventions to enhance local security and public safety through citizens' engagement and supporting Police at district level through establishing linkages between various local institutions under the Police Order 2002. The programme creates an environment where

community perceptions about the effectiveness of the local police department will impact police performance. The program seeks to demonstrate that when realistic

institutional support is built into the system, positive behavior modification, enhanced performance and receptivity to the needs of the 'client' can be brought about.

The Police Community Relations Programme (PCRP) has successfully held 141 Khuli Kachehris in seventy nine Union Councils of Province Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) during October-December 2011. 2939 Males and 1080 Females participant attended these Khuli Kacheri's. A total no. of 133 issues were raised by the participants of Khuli Kacheries and sent to concerned Police stations for actions. 61 issues of Balochistan province were resolved by the concerned police stations and 72 issues of KPK are in Process.



PCRP has also conducted the refresher training workshop for Union Public Safety Committees (UPSCs) and CSOs of Malakand region and Balochistan. The main objective of the workshop was to improve the capacity of UPSCs and civil society for the smooth implementation of police community relations program in target districts of Malakand region and Balochistan. Total 234 UPSCs chairman, Vice Chairman and CSOs representatives have attended the refresher training workshop. During the period of Oct-Dec 2011 Police Station Monitoring System (PSMS) was installed in seven target police stations of district Lower Dir & Shangla of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and twenty four police officials were trained to operate the PSMS software. Analyses for target police stations of seven districts of Balochistan, based on Khuli Kacheri

issue resolved and perception surveys has been prepared and ranked on performance of each target police station for the disbursement of "Institutional support". DTCE

disbursed the 3,037,500 institutional supports to target police stations of Balochistan.

First installments of Rs. 7,50,000 has been disbursed to DCO Lower Dir for the rehabilitation of detainees under livelihood projects in accordance with the work plan, which resulted in reintegration of 27 detainees in the society. Phase two is in progress.



Capacity Building of V&NCs, UPSCs and C&SCs Chairmen

The V&NCs are elected bodies at village level that form two bodies in a Union Council namely (a) Union Public Safety Committee (UPSC) with the objective to improve upon public safety in coordination with the local police and (b) Coordination and Support Committee (C&SC) for overseeing, monitoring and facilitation of the VNCs in its respective Union council for the availability of municipal service and governance at local level.

Orientation of V&NCs, UPSCs and C&SCs Chairmen

An Orientation meeting was held at CSO Office Chaman Killa Abdullah, the Chairman V&NCs, UPSCs and C&SCs were briefed about the DTCE components, and working methodology, record keeping procedure was also shared with them. They were also asked to issue cross cheques to the UPSC and C&SC Chairman in the respective Union Councils. Some of them have already started the activities like purchasing of Street Lights. Further they were asked to nominate the watchman in their own area and the UPSC chairmen were explained how to nominate the village commanders.



Orientation on record keeping and Quarterly Work Plan preparation

One day orientation workshop has been completed in which 22 V&NCs were divided in two groups. Eleven (11) V&NCs on first day while the remaining eleven received training on Quarterly Work Plan preparation and record keeping on second day. The training was significant for the V&NCs because they were facing difficulties in completing the record register, and secondly approximately all the members of each V&NC participated and developed the QWP with better understanding. The UPSC and C&SC Chairman participated in the event to make a better coordination among them specially on monitoring report preparation and deliverables.



Meeting with CSO

A meeting was held with the CSO staff regarding the preparation of QWP and understanding on the major activities of the support staff, and they capacitated to prepare document files for better record keeping, Further they were asked to keep close coordination with the UPSC and C&SC chairman for the facilitation in their activities and keep regularity in V&NCs activities in the area.

Bringing Eunuch in The Mainstream.....

There are 1100 community members of eunuchs (Khawaja Sarra) in various vicinities in Lahore city. Most of them are young and having no employment as most of them are little or not educated at all due to lack of resources, ultimately they are involved in activities that society usually doesn't approve. It was noticed that this community is absolutely socially excluded, neither have they had employment opportunities nor they are given due share in other basic facilities of life. To make their both ends meet they have to find different ways of earning.

Because of their perceived misfortune at having being born between the two genders most of Eunuch adopt dance as their profession for earning money to ensure that they could sustain themselves since they don't get a decent living. People stigmatized them because of their profession and cultural activities. That's why they want to choose some other decent work as their profession to earn a decent living. When they get old they opt for begging which they consider is comparatively better than dancing. Majority of the people, especially women at homes, believe that they were close to God Almighty and that was the reason they do not refuse to give them alms or food, hence, making it quite safe profession.

A Citizen Community Board (CCB) was formed in this community so that they would identify their problems and work to resolve these. After conducting a meeting among their community through a CCB named as Khawja Sarra

CCB, they decided to design a CCB Project of "Beauty Training Center" to enhance the vocational skills of their youth and through this skill they will be able to earn their livelihood for themselves and can prepare their young unemployed youth for future. After acquiring skills from this centre they can start a beauty parlor and earn a decent living.

Laila Naz is selected as the chairperson while Nazir Ahmad Gogi is selected as secretary of this CCB. Total Beneficiaries of this CCB are expected to be around 250.

Laila Naz is all praise for DTCE for considering their community to launch this value able community project.



Press Forums



The role of Press Clubs is envisaged as educating communities about the concepts and details of the community empowerment elements under devolution. Local Press Clubs constitute "Press Committees". DTCE strengthens capacity of these nominated Press Committees and continually feeds them with relevant information for further dissemination.

Memorandums of understanding are signed between DTCE and press clubs so that problem faced to the local communities could be highlighted and their solutions could be discovered. Under the MoU the press clubs hold press forums. These press forums are a platform that strengthens community voice and participation (particularly for marginalized segments) in relation to social, economic, and other problems related to local governance. These forums also promote community journalism at the local levels.

Objectives of the Press Forums

The objectives of the press forums are to

- Develop relations between the community and press for the solution of local issues.
- Highlighting local issues in the media.
- Finding a solution to local issues through these people and press collaborations.

Procedure

Press forums are a part of Press clubs quarterly work plan. DTCE field teams in coordination with Local Press

clubs ensure the participation of local stakeholders (Bar Associations, CCBN, Local Council Association, Muhallah councils etc) in these press forums.

Promotion of the Press Forums

After the forum is conducted, arrangements with the help of the press club members are made to report this in electronic and print media.

Violation of Women's rights

Bringing the growing cases of women rights violation on the fore front this topic was discussed in the Press forum. Forum discussed the women's rights in light of Islamic and national laws. Speakers talked about the role of women in socio-political development. The situation of women rights

violence on the local level was discussed and suggestions were put forth for stopping these violation. In 25 press clubs topics regarding the violation of human rights was discussed.

The issues of flood affectees in Flood affected districts in the absence of local government or elected local representatives.

In the flood affected areas the miseries of people increased many folds when there were no local representatives to provide them support. In the flood affected areas the issues of flood affected peoples in the absence of local government system were discussed in the press forums.



Grants Opening Meeting-GEP

Devolution trust for Community Empowerment (DTCE) is the implementing partner for project titled "Supporting Four Months Campaigns on Gender based Violence". This grant is made possible through the generous support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under Gender Equity programme (GEP) which is being implemented by the Aurat Foundation (AF) in close collaboration with The Asia Foundation.

Simultaneous campaigns will be held at district/tehsil levels and will focus on raising awareness on gender-based violence, provide a forum for dialogue and strategy sharing, pressurize the government to implement commitments made in national and international legal instruments, express solidarity with survivors and victims of violence and celebrate economic, political and social achievements of women of Pakistan.

In this regard, a Grants Opening Meeting was organized on December 19 & 20, 2011 in Islamabad. The Grants Opening Meeting was a two days event that helped the partner organizations to draft their Plan of actions.



Mr. Azhar Bashir Malik (Chief Operating Officer, DTCE) welcomed the participants in the meeting and said that violence against women is a persistent and universal problem occurring in every culture and social group. Around the world, at least one in every three women has been abused in her lifetime. In Pakistan different forms of violence against women is prevailing.

He also highlighted the objectives of the Grants Opening Meeting that were to have interactions with local partners, plan District and Provincial action Plans that would include the activities, outputs, Impacts and time frame of the activities. These would help to chalk out the future Plans and way forward for the Project.

Bushra Jaffer, Younus Khalid, Baber Aziz, Amena Raja and Nadia Tariq Ali from GEP participated in the event. Colleagues from Aurat Foundation Islamabad and regional offices and sub-grantees representing 23 organizations were also among the participants. DTCE media department arranged for the media coverage and event got good space in the print media.



LCA's Awareness Campaign

Local Council Associations launched a nationwide social communication and awareness raising campaign on LG system. For this purpose, six conventions were held for pressing the government to revive the local government system in the country. These conventions were held in Gujranwala, Sargodha, Sukkur, Multan and Thatta respectively wherein representatives of LCAs, CCB Networks, and district press club, district bar association, civil society and general citizenry participated.

While addressing the huge number of People in these local govts awareness conventions Chairman, Devolution Trust for Community Empowerment (DTCE) Daniyal Aziz said that democracy is unacceptable without grass root level democracy (Local Governments). The provincial governments, through notifications, had changed the LG funds into MPAs discretionary funds which, the law does not permit. Through such practice, a handful of MPAs are looting the funds through the contractors, he added. The local governments are the third tier of



democracy and by delaying the LG polls for the last two years the so-called champions of democracy are usurping the political and democratic rights of local people including women, minorities, peasants and labourers.

Daniyal said in local government there was no inflation. He said: "I defy this form of democracy where prices of petrol and electricity are sky-rocketing and the poor is unable to pay school and hospital fees. Local govts is grass root level democracy where people solve their problems at their door steps



Not only LCA's mobilizing the public but fighting legal battle as well. Local Council Associations since the last 3 years have filed 27 cases in the Supreme Court of Pakistan and High Courts in four provinces for the restoration of Local Governments and against the appointment of administrator in place of Nazims but there is no progress in the courts against these constitutional violations. The historic Judgment of the Division Bench headed by Chief Justice, Baluchistan High court has restored the supremacy of the constitution and has failed all efforts to curb the independence of judiciary. Such decisions are needed in other provinces as well to give people their due rights.

People were made aware that Public Safety Commissions are non-functional due to suspension of Police Order 2002 and people at local level are facing severe violation of human rights. The rights of women, minorities and laborers have been usurped by delaying the local government polls by the provinces.



Bureaucracy vs the people

By Daniyal Aziz
Courtesy The News
Tuesday, December 13, 2011

The Nov 24 judgment in the case *Mir Maqbool Lehri vs the Government of Balochistan*, declaring the executive magistracy illegal and against the independence of the judiciary and the Constitution, has finally ended the saga of lies, deceit and usurpation of rights highlighted by the 1855 Torture Commission, which was set up two years before the War Of Independence. The yearning for freedom punctuated by these historical developments prompted the colonialists to invent the draconian 1861 Police Act. This decision is a victory for democracy and rule of law in Pakistan, although the battle still goes on.

After the successful conclusion of the lawyers' movement, both the main political parties tried to outdo one another in claiming victory over the reinstatement of the judiciary. However, that positive development has been replaced by a return to more traditional attempts at constraining judicial independence.

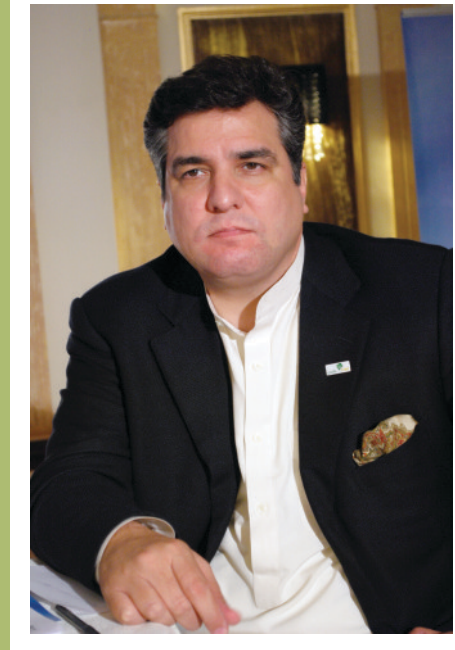
The National Judicial Commission chaired by Chief Justice Iftikhar Mohammad Chaudhry announced a policy framework to secure the independence of the judiciary. Under the framework, among measures intended to ensure the separation of the judiciary from the executive, the chief justices of the four provincial High Courts will not take oath as acting governors in the absence of the governor, over 110 judges were withdrawn from quasi-executive posts and returned to the judicial hierarchy, and judges will no longer conduct elections.

These actions by the judiciary, riding on a wave of public support, were seen as a mortal threat to the District Management Group (DMG) and the traditional political parties. After independence, the bureaucracy and the political establishment had combined to develop a system of dynastic political fiefdoms, with political parties taking turns at looting the country. These were enabled by the politics of patronage, thana-katchery, biradari and corruption. The lynchpin was the bureaucratic overlord under the auspices of the executive known as deputy commissioner (or district magistrate) typically appointed for their loyalty to the political family in power.

The district magistrate was the embodiment of the colonial-era unholy trinity of the land revenue department, the judiciary and the police. The concentration of judicial, police and revenue authorities in one individual thus made him the judge, jury and hangman in violation of the Constitution and all norms of modern governance calling for separation of the executive from the judiciary.

Judicial, police, revenue and executive powers had been separated under the new local government system in 2001 ushered in to save Pakistan after the country was declared a failed state after years under the post-colonial governance system.

Under the new system, judicial authority had been returned to the judiciary through amendment to the Criminal Procedure Code, the police had been vested with powers in the Provincial and District Public Safety Commissions under the Police Order 2002, revenue authority had been returned to the revenue department and the executive was



now headed by an elected representative answerable to the elected district council. In this way the system of rule of law, rather than the rule of an individual, was instituted, according to which the bureaucracy is equally answerable before the law.

On the one hand, with the return of the political parties in 2008, the DMG was sure that it was only a matter of time before it could again violate judicial independence. On the other hand, the exercise of judicial independence by the judiciary struck fear and threatened the plan of the political and bureaucratic elites as the judiciary proved to be a new and formidable enemy. Judicial independence would have remained incomplete without separation at the local level, and the separation paved the way for a democratic system of local government, as opposed to a bureaucratic one. This was precisely the opposite of what was desired by the opponents of judicial independence.

The implementation of the new National Judicial Policy extended into June when the judges' separation from the Election Commission was to be completed.

It didn't take long for the political/bureaucratic elite to react. On July 8, 2009, a hurriedly called meeting of the Inter-Provincial Coordination Committee (IPCC) was called. It was chaired by the prime minister and the four chief ministers were among its participants. It was briefed by the all-powerful provincial chief secretaries. A unanimous one-point agenda was announced by the prime minister: removal of the local government system and return to the colonial system of executive magistracy.

The message was clear: the political/bureaucratic elite was not willing to accept an independent judiciary and a democratic system of government at the local level as this threatened the politics of loot and plunder.

On July 22, 2009, Jeevay Pakistan Jeevay Muqami Hukumat Tehrik (JPJM) took out a protest rally on Islamabad's Constitution Avenue and continued its struggle through the ensuing months by holding conventions across the country. As it gathered momentum, the JPJM was joined by the Jamaat-e-Islami, Imran Khan's PTI and the MQM (even though it was in government). This scared those working against an independent judiciary and the local government system was given an extension until Dec 31, 2009, and the executive magistracy was not reinstated.

In early 2010, all the provinces made virtual one-line amendments to local government laws that only removed the elected representatives and left the rest of the system in tact. The bureaucracy kept its pressure on and soon a half-baked reversion to the executive magistracy was attempted in various provinces.

However, the federal bureaucrats running Balochistan in the name of provincial autonomy chose the forsaken province for their final action. Here they actually used the provincial assembly to unilaterally amend the federal act of the Criminal Procedure Code, and in doing so assigned judicial authority to executive officers and thus fulfilling their real desire.

It remains to be seen how the politico/bureaucratic establishment reacts to this constitutional development, especially when they have unanimously passed Article 140-A calling for an effective, devolved, democratic local government even if the officials are vacuous, without any vision, and helpless before their bureaucratic handlers.

The writer is a former chairman of the National Reconstruction Bureau and founder of the JPJM.

Media and Communication

Media Department highlighted through print and electronic media the role and Efforts of the DTCE and LCAs for the restoration of the local government system. For this purpose contact with important media personalities were established.

Public awareness through print and electronic media

DTCE media and communication department worked tirelessly to facilitate the LCA conventions in Gunjranwala, Sargodha, Sukkur and Multan and Thatta. These events were given space in media including national and local print and electronic media. The national and local news channels that covered these events include Dawn news, ARY News, Geo News, Express 24/7, Dunya TV, Sama TV, CNBC Pakistan etc. CNBC Pakistan did a special programme from the venue of the Gujranwala Convention. The national and local newspapers that covered the events include Daily Dawn, The News, The Nation, Daily Times, Pakistan Today, Islamabad dateline, Pakistan Observer, Express, Jang, Nawa-i-Waqt, Ausaf, Asas, Kawish, Sindh, Sarkar, Tuluh, Ummat and Daily Wisdom etc. A special news piece was published in express Tribune on October 11 on "Revival of Local Governments".

Talk shows on the theme of Local Government system were broadcasted through national news channels that include:

Channel	Program	Date
ARY News	Q & A	Oct. 29, 2011
ARY News	Q & A	Oct. 30, 2011
CNBC	Doosra Pehlu	Nov. 03, 2011
AAJ News	Pakistan at 7	Nov. 04, 2011
Waqt News	Awami Express	Nov. 22, 2011

Documentaries on "Inflation and Role of Local Government" and "accountability Mechanism in LGO 2001" were produced and aired on various channels.

Reaching out to the masses through interactive response centers

In the last quarter, approximately 113,000 people in Punjab and Sindh were contacted through DTCE's interactive voice response system to mobilize and inform them of conventions. DTCE has also setup a Short Messaging System (SMS) to update its local stakeholders that include LCA, UPSC and VNC members on various programs/events on Local Govt. System. Recently DTCE has developed and tested an e-voting system that will be used in the election for formation of Provincial LCAs. This e-voting system will ensure transparency and accuracy in the election process and will be piloted in the coming month.

