

Promoting Government Schools by Improving Infrastructure in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province

Through Humqadam-School Construction and Rehabilitation Programme (SCRP), UK aid and Australian Government are attracting students to study in government schools in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province by providing new classrooms which are contributing to more focused, comfortable and engaged learning.

In rural District Charsadda of KP province, government schools in general are missing physical infrastructure facilities which attributes to a low literacy rate. Government Girls Primary School (GGPS) Sewan, District Charsadda, KP province, had only two classrooms which accommodated more than 158 young girls and boys. The teachers have no other option but to practice multi-grade teaching. Despite being costlier, those parents that somehow can afford prefer private schooling over government schools as the overall environment was not pleasant.

GGPS Sewan was introduced by KP government education department to Humqadam in the year 2016. After baseline survey Humqadam-SCRP identified the needs of the school and Statement of Requirement (SOR) was signed between the Humqadam and the community, which defines the scope of work along with the respective roles and responsibilities of the involved parties.



The school received three new classrooms in August 2018 from Humqadam-SCRP which considerably changed the overall mind-set of the community regarding sending students to the school. The school has now become the centre of attraction for the adjoining communities. Parents of students studying in adjoining private schools are now showing keen interest in sending their children to GGPS Sewan.

“The school looks perfect as all classes are arranged under shelter. We have displayed study material charts on the wooden strips. The classrooms are filled with fresh air and sunlight which has allowed both the students and the teachers to be comfortable. In our school, 26 children have been admitted who were previously studying in private schools”– Ms. Fajrat Begum, Head Teacher GGPS Sewan

Humqadam is not only constructing new classrooms and toilet blocks in government schools but also changing the mind set of students, parents and teaching staff alike.

Humqadam-SCRP is UK Aid’s largest infrastructure programme in the world, with significant contribution by Australian Government in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Humqadam aims to improve infrastructure in government schools in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces of Pakistan. As of December 2018, Humqadam has constructed 1,165 new classrooms and rehabilitated 2,259 classrooms in 364 schools including 143 higher secondary schools and 122 regular schools in KP province. This programme is a part of the £420 million Punjab Education Support Programme (PESP) II and the £283 million Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Education Sector Programme (KESP), large and ambitious programmes which represent a collaborative effort between DFID, Australian Government (contribution in KP province only), and the provincial governments to result in more children in school and better learning outcomes.