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Education

The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Newsletter this quarter invites all readers to explore the petroleum Exploration and Production (E&P) companies' endeavours in contributing to the 'Education' sector in Pakistan. It is dedicated to highlighting some of the success stories and winning strategies, through independent projects as well as public-private partnerships, which showcase the sector's pledge to invest in human capital through education.

Education is universally accepted to be a cornerstone in the social development of a country. Among other positive effects, it enlightens minds, develops human resource, fights ignorance, and empowers and brightens peoples' prospects. In Pakistan at present, the overall literacy rate is 53%. The total enrolment of primary school-going-age children is 15.9 million and girls make up 42.6% of the total number of children enrolled.

Sensitive to the needs of the country, the E&P sector believes that the benefits of the sector's progress must also profit the communities of the areas it operates in. With the valuable partnership of the respective District Governments and local NGOs, the industry is committed to channeling its financial resources and in reaching out to far-flung rural areas to address the educational needs of local communities.

The articles that follow share the current development projects being implemented by the petroleum industry in such fields as school infrastructure development, provision of scholarships, and local teachers' capacity building. We hope that other than being an interesting read, this newsletter will be able to increase awareness about the efforts made by the industry in the education sector to support people towards their uplift and progress.

—Editorial Team



This issue - Education

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Realizing Dreams with Scholarships

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Infrastructure Capacity Building in Sindh

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A Dream Fulfilled

Manzoor Ahmed is the youngest son of a farmer in Chanda Khurram, District Karak. Despite being one of the brightest students of his school, Manzoor was forced to discontinue education after his Matriculation due to his father's meagre income. "I can never forget the difficulty with which my father borrowed money from relatives for my Matriculation exams," he says.

About to commence on a journey to Lahore to do odd-jobs to augment the family income, Manzoor's dream to study further was salvaged by the MOL Scholarship. He is now enrolled in a pre-engineering college, and aspires to go on to an engineering university.

Manzoor Ahmed, Tehsil Banda Daud Shah, District Karak



An interactive approach makes learning interesting

Empowerment Through Quality Education

Education is one of the key components of the Community Development Programme initiated by BHP Billiton in Dadu, Sindh. Going beyond the goal of literacy, the programme promotes high quality learning that builds confidence, enhances creativity and critical analysis, and instils values in students. In addition to fulfilling the infrastructure needs of primary and middle schools, we also promote child-friendly teaching techniques, female education, and create

human rights awareness. Our aim is to help communities play an active role in their own educational development.

BHP Billiton Pakistan has collaborated with three local NGOs to establish 14 primary schools, providing quality education to more than 1000 children from 39 villages. The Project's primary objective is to provide education to the poorest and most vulnerable members of the community, particularly women. Consequently, over 90% of the beneficiaries of the Project are young girls.

The education being imparted in these schools is in line with the local education system, and the project has been implemented with the active participation of the community, the local government, and the civil society. Each school is monitored by a School Management Committee (SMC) comprising teachers, NGO staff and local community members. Parental involvement in children's education is also ensured. Benefits of the programme include income generation for as many as 35 local teachers and increased school enrolment. Moreover, three extensive teacher training courses have been carried out for local teachers' capacity building.



Contributed By: **bhpbilliton**

Realizing Dreams with Scholarships

At MOL Pakistan, we have a comprehensive Community Development Programme in the TAL Block. As an integral component of the process of development, the education sector has received due attention from us. Under our educational initiatives, a scholarship programme was launched for Tehsil Banda Daud Shah, District Karak in October 2005. Our belief that scholarships change the lives of people and open new avenues of growth for them, lent our programme its objective: the provision of financial assistance to able students who are forced to discontinue education at the intermediate level due to financial constraints.

Name of the Student	Union Council
Abid ur Rehman	Gurguri
Muhammad Hanif	Gurguri
Faridullah	Gurguri
Mohammed Nabeel	Gurguri
Sakhawat Rehman	Nari Panos
Marina Aslam	Teri
Khushbakht Mehreen	Teri
Manzoor Ahmed	Jatta Ismail Khel
Muhammad Yasir	Jatta Ismail Khel
Sikandar Nawaz	Bahadur Khel

At the inception of the scholarship programme, a publicity campaign was carried out throughout the district to raise awareness about the opportunity, and to ensure full participation from the community. The grant covers tuition fee, boarding and lodging, and the cost of books at the rate of PKR 4000 per month, for a period of two years. Payments, made quarterly, are subject to the attendance and academic performance of the student in the preceding quarter as reported by the head of the student's institution.

At present, the need-and-merit-based programme is supporting ten students of the Karak District, including two women, from different union councils of Tehsil Banda Daud Shah. The selected students show outstanding ability, having passed the stringent eligibility criteria as well as a written test and an interview. Women and physically challenged students were encouraged to apply. Feedback and success stories suggest that the MOL Scholarship Programme has been very effective in allowing students to pursue their education, thus fulfilling its purpose successfully. For the organisation, too, this initiative translates into stakeholder appreciation for socially aware behaviour and the programme has generated goodwill and recognition.



Contributed By:

Persistence Pays



Rehman (seated), the star in school plays

Rehman Ali is a student of Community Based School Kamal Khan Bhanbhro, which is an OMV supported institution. His parents were not in favour of formal education. However, his zest for learning made him accompany the crowd of students heading towards school each morning, finally convincing his parents to send him to school. He has turned out to be one of the brightest students, and excels in academics and participates actively in co-curricular activities. As a 'Prefect', Rehman manages the class in the absence of the teacher. Students like Rehman are an asset for schools where there is only one teacher to handle the multi-grade classroom. Rehman feels that "The most significant aspect of going to school is adding new words to my vocabulary and learning new things every day".

Rehman Ali, Malhar Faqeer Bhanbhro, Sindh

Rising Through Education

At OMV (Pakistan), we believe that education is the key to the development and uplift of communities in remote areas. With this view, we have been implementing our Education Project in OMV concession areas in Sindh, the slogan of our Project being 'Rising through Education'!

The Project's major focus is on strengthening primary education to help nurture young and receptive minds in a conducive environment. To achieve this, OMV (Pakistan) is supporting 64 primary schools with the cooperation of the local populace and the Education Departments of the District Governments.

In addition to infrastructure development, the Project aims to ensure that students receive quality education. It is difficult to attract qualified teachers from towns who find the rough terrain of the desert and the absence of basic infrastructure and amenities a disincentive to work. Therefore, a 'Training Resource Centre' has been established to improve the teaching skills of local teachers with basic qualifications through regular training.

The Middle Education Project, another component of our Education Project, is geared towards reducing school dropout rate after the completion of primary education. To accomplish this, OMV (Pakistan) is providing need-based support to middle schools such as school infrastructure improvement and the provision of technical facilities required at the high school level.

A model school, established by OMV (Pakistan) and managed by an independent organization, is an exemplary institution in its area. This institution provides a high standard of education, comparable to some of the best schools of Pakistan.

With the Education Project, OMV (Pakistan) is progressively contributing towards human capital development in our lease areas. The intelligent design of the Project continually adds new need-based components to it, supporting communities that look forward to advancement through enlightenment.



Good primary education - A sound foundation

Contributed By:

Infrastructure Capacity Building in Sindh

Petroleum Exploration (Pvt) Limited (PEL) is fully aware of national concerns and is committed to addressing them. In its own circle of influence, it is a matter of policy and high priority with PEL to attend to the uplift of the socio-economic conditions of the communities in its lease areas. At present, PEL's Gas production facilities are concentrated in Sindh in the Shikarpur, Ghotki, and Qadirpur areas. Like most of the province, this water-scarce region is underdeveloped and lacks most basic amenities.

Knowing that the common man can only be empowered through education, PEL supports the education sector in various ways. One initiative focused on the provision of safe drinking water to educational institutions. So far 28 educational institutions in Shikarpur, Ghotki, Mirpur Mathelo and Jacobabad have benefited from this project costing PKR 1 million.

Another educational project, undertaken by PEL at the request of the local administration of Shikarpur, involved the construction of eight additional classrooms for Haji Maula Buksh Soomro (HMB) Trust Institute of Science & Technology at a cost of PKR 2.2 million. PEL remained committed to this project from its inception to completion. To optimize the benefits from the available funds, no non-governmental organization or middleperson was engaged; the project was completed through the joint supervision of PEL and the Institute. Quality control and a steady pace of work were ensured by PEL's own civil engineers.

The classrooms now stand completed. They have enabled the enrollment of additional students, a majority of whom are girls. PEL is proud to have created a good model of mutual collaboration and prudent social investment, and intends to support capacity building in the education sector in all its concession areas in the future as well.



Availability of basic amenities completes a school

Contributed By:



Aiming High

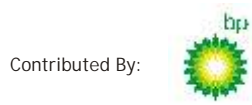
Choosing to pursue a career in Computer Science, Tanzeela's ambition to break into a male-dominated field was fuelled by her education at the Matli Girls Degree College built by British Petroleum Pakistan.

The College was the first girls' college in Matli. Its well-equipped computer lab enabled Tanzeela to develop and practice her technical skills and build her confidence, which consequently helped her qualify for a Masters degree at the Sindh University.

Tanzeela says "BP has helped many realise their dreams and their potential. It would have been impossible for me to qualify for my Masters had it not been for the BP funded and operated Computer Centre. The other option would have been to travel to Hyderabad, Tando Mohammad Khan to use the computer centre there, something which would not have been feasible at all."

Tanzeela proudly adds, "My successful career as a Computer Science instructor enables me to be a role model for other girls, especially those in my family and the Qambrani tribe."

Tanzeela Um-e-Habiba Qambrani, Matli, Sindh



Higher Education for a Brighter Tomorrow

Pakistan Oilfields Limited (POL) is an active and responsible member of the community in which it operates. Initiated in the early 20th century, POL's 'Community Development Practices' is a visionary program that focuses on health services, water supply schemes, and infrastructural and educational development. The program demonstrates POL's long-term association with the communities surrounding its oil fields, and its commitment to understanding and addressing local issues.



Technical skills ensure a wholesome education

POL believes that education is the bedrock of progress - it contributes to sustainable economic growth, technological advancement, and social improvement, thus leading towards a better future. POL focuses on education at the basic and primary, secondary and higher secondary, and college levels. Since 1997, POL has spent over US\$ 200,000 to improve the infrastructure of 28 Government schools that cater to 1200 students. POL has also invested more than US\$ 100,000 on equipping secondary schools with computer and science laboratories to enhance the technical skills of students. POL believes that education enlightens vision and broadens the horizons of individuals and communities. The POL Intermediate College Khaur and Degree College Chak Beli Khan have been set up with an investment of PKR 30 million and are expected to be operational from September 2007. These colleges will facilitate easy access to secondary education and reduce school drop out rate for those who find the cost of education and living in large cities unaffordable.

Contributed By:



Creating Opportunities in Dera Bugti

Pakistan Petroleum Limited (PPL) initiated several projects in the education sector during the years 2005-2006. These projects were undertaken with a view to improve educational opportunities at all levels and facilities for research in Pakistan. The company provided generous funds for educational projects in the areas of primary, higher, and technical education throughout the country. These



An outstanding student receiving the scholarship award

initiatives were implemented through the active cooperation of counterpart government departments and private non-profit organizations. The PPL Scholarships Scheme for Professional Higher Studies for students of Dera Bugti district of Balochistan was one of the significant educational projects launched during the years 2005-2006.

The Scheme launched in 2005-2006 under the aegis of the PPL Welfare Trust for the bonafide students of the District Dera Bugti, aims to foster national spirit and enhance inter-provincial understanding and harmony. It covers tuition fees and cost of boarding and lodging of awardees till the completion of the degree program. In addition to reducing the financial burden of parents, the Scheme provides opportunities to have exposure to other cultures in the country. Every year, these scholarships are advertised twice in the prominent national dailies and awarded to the deserving students of District Dera Bugti. Transparency is ensured in the award of scholarship through the involvement of the District Coordination Officer and Executive District Officer (Education) of District Dera Bugti as members of the Scholarships Awards Committee. A total of ten annual scholarships are being offered currently for Bachelors or Masters Degree programmes in Engineering, Medicine, Information Technology, and Business Administration at Higher Education Commission's (HEC) approved institutions in provinces other than Balochistan. However, the number of awards is flexible and can increase. PPL plans to progressively contribute to the education sector by continuing the scholarship programme in years to come.

Contributed By:



Feedback and Comments

Readers are welcome to send their feedback and comments on this issue of the newsletter.

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