



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

—Margaret Mead

SHEHRI

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Coastal Development: Threatening Karachi's Coastal Ecology and Dependent Livelihoods

A number of development projects are being planned and carried out on Karachi's coast that pose serious dangers for the precious coastal ecology and the livelihoods that it sustains. In this **SPECIAL REPORT**, the relevant issues get discussed in detail.

In September 2006, the Federal Government announced construction of Diamond Bar Island City on two islands i.e. Bundal and Dingi on Karachi coast. A hefty investment of \$ 43 billion was promised by a UAE based real estate concern Emaar. Concerned citizens of Sindh, civil society and political organizations of Pakistan and international conservation groups termed this project a threat to natural resources of Sindh Coast and for the livelihoods of fishing communities in the vicinity. However it did not stop here and they decided to embark upon an ambitious waterfront development plan in Karachi in the ecologically rich Hawksbay area on the western coast of Karachi.

The Project

The government has not yet officially disclosed the details of the project. However media has been leaking some information on the project through news stories. Official websites of City District Government Karachi (CDGK) and the Limitless (Dubai based real estate developer involved in the project) also provide some information on the project.

According to the official website of the CDGK, the City Nazim of Karachi

Syed Mustafa Kamal told journalists that a master plan to construct a new city, Karachi Waterfront Sugar Land City at Hawkesbay has been finalized and it will be constructed on 60,000 acres with the estimated cost of US\$68 billion. Responding a question, the Nazim said that President General Pervez Musharraf has approved the plan. He added that the concerned authorities have been



issued NOC for the construction of new city at Hawkesbay. The meeting was also attended by Federal Minister for Ports and Shipping, Babar Gori, Chief Minister Sindh, Chief Secretary Sindh, KPT Chairman, representative of Nakheel Development and Chief Executive of Dubai Islamic Bank.

The website of Limitless explains the salient features of the project as follows:

The project is a joint initiative of Limitless and the Government of Pakistan to create a new, balanced waterfront development - Karachi Waterfront, on a 25,000 hectares site west of the existing city of Karachi. The "new city" would contain a defined and carefully weighted balance of residential, commercial, recreational and entertainment facilities in state of the art, master-planned communities. The development would also be home to Special Economic Zones creating a hub for trading, manufacturing and services industry supported by world-class infrastructure and amenities. Phase-1 of the project will involve an investment of \$20 billion over the next ten years for developing more than 2000 hectares of prime water-front property. Subsequent phases of the project are expected to involve much larger investments.

A report in Daily The News, Karachi appeared on 25th May 2007 and provides following details about the project:

The first announcement of the project came on Dubai World's website on 5th June, 2006, where it stated that Limitless will develop the Karachi

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EDITORIAL**A Society in Freefall**

Every day is a struggle with more battles lost than won as efforts are made to have Karachi operate as a viable and functional urban settlement. Grandiose plans are discussed and floated and implemented with the attached promises of turning this city into a Paris, a Dubai, a New York and what not. Master plans a plenty and development packages that keep falling from the sky every now and then help keep the spirits alive, hopes in place as we wait and watch, watch and wait till one dying flicker of an unfulfilled dream is replaced by another, then another and so keeps the wheel turning. Accepted that the problems are complex, enmeshed in tangled webs of deceit, corruption, crime and inaction, yet one is often more depressed and dejected, not at our incapacity to solve the mega problems but at our seemingly unexplainable incapacity and stupidity to tackle effectively even the most basic and the apparently trivial challenges.

The space here is given to discussing an amazingly idiotic case of traffic management that is shamelessly unfolding in front of our very eyes, facing the complex of shops (*Time Medico/Murad Medico etc.*) on the National Stadium Road. As the shops are much visited, cars used to be parked in multiple lanes on the road adjacent, thereby creating a troublesome traffic bottleneck on a busy road.

One fine day, the Cantonment Board managing the land in question decided to ban parking in front of the shops and started work on constructing a parking space on a recently vacated piece of land bordering the shops complex - so far so good. However, what followed can only be described as an absolute mockery of the basic principles of traffic planning and management. First con-

crete block were placed to cordon off the area where previously the cars used to be parked on the road. This measure effectively prevented the cars from being parked on the road, though a small detail needs to be mentioned....the bottleneck remained in place - the cars being replaced by concrete blocks!!

With the parking space completed, it was hoped that matters would be brought under control. However, needless to say, yet another hope in vain! It so occurred, for no comprehensible rhyme or reason, cars were allowed to be parked on the pavement in front of the shops! It is no hidden fact that the common man and his worries and concerns, needs and desires play a limited if any role in setting the priorities for planning and development in this city or for that matter in the country as a whole. In the case in question, the same governing principles apply. A facility primarily meant for the usage of the pedestrians is now being used as a parking space + a road, as cars constantly maneuver in search of a prime parking space in front of the shop of their choice while the poor shoppers who either come on foot or after duly parking their car in the charged parking space jump all over the place, women and children included, to avoid being hit by the running traffic on the pavement!

The purpose of highlighting this case is to simply indicate the abject misery of our situation. It requires no rocket science to manage a no parking zone. Conversely, it requires a governance system mired in complete bankruptcy to allow this to happen and a society steeped in complete apathy, despair and disarray for being a part of it. The least we can do is bury our head in shame. □



Waterfront project. This was followed by the news that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed by Pakistan's Minister of State and Privatization and Investment Umar Ahmad Ghuman and Dubai World chairman Sultan Bin Sulayman. The (MoU) was followed by a high-level meeting held in Islamabad on June 24, 2006, which was chaired by Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz. A number of important directives were given to different ministries including those of Ports and Shipping, Defence, as well as the government of Sindh. It was decided in this meeting that, since the area indicated by Dubai World is very large, the development may start in phases. According to the documents available, in the first phase Manora area, along with Sandspit and areas behind it in the Karachi Port Trust (KPT) western back waters, up to KPT's land limits with Hawksbay, would be offered to the group. In the second phase, while developing the Hawksbay Beach front, it would be ensured that a few portions are left open for the general public for recreational purposes. It was proposed in the same meeting that there should be a proper mechanism for shifting the navy and cantonment board's facilities located at Manora to the Navy land at Cape Monze area.

According to the latest reports on the project, notices have been issued to all hut owners coming under the project's jurisdiction. The notice states that all those huts that are in violation of the hut by-laws would have their leases cancelled with immediate effect whereas the leases of those huts that are not in violation will not be renewed as and when their term expires."

On 14th August, the national day of Pakistan, the Planning and Development department of Sindh Government invited *Expression of Interests* for the project. The same advertisement was placed in Daily Dawn, Karachi on 29th August 2007, this time including a note on extent of

project area as 40,000 acres centered around Hawksbay. The document however does not provide any specific details of the project.

This vagueness is also evident from the introductory note given in the beginning of the document. It reads "The approximate total land within the proposed area will be a minimum of 40,000 acres (19047.53 acres available Government of Sindh land, 21037.15 acres of land on short lease subject to cancellation) all of which is not contiguous. There are pockets of land in the proposed Development Area that are not owned by any government entity or agency, and the selected developer will be expected to work with the government entities and agencies and with the actual owners of the land to acquire or find other viable mutually-beneficial and mutual agreeable solutions for these pockets of land." This clearly indicates that the project will be spread all around the Hawks Bay area and not restricted to any particular part of the area.

Threat to Eco-system

Hawksbay/Sandspit beaches host a unique eco-system of endangered green turtles. This is a major breeding point of the green turtles. Sindh Wildlife Department and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) has been working on conservation of green turtles since many years.

Marine turtles have been included in the WWF - Pakistan strategic plan known as *Species of Special Concern*. Globally, there are eight species of marine turtles and all have been classified as endangered. Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) and Olive Ridley Turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) are the two species of marine turtles that nest along the Sandspit and Hawkesbay beaches at the Karachi coast. All species of marine turtles are listed in the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)*. Pakistan is a signatory to *CITES*, which prohibits trade of turtles, turtle



parts and eggs. The Government of Sindh has also declared Marine Turtles as *Protected* species. Mega construction schemes may not only disturb this fragile eco-system but may also completely devoid this area from green turtles if proper environmental management is not carried out.

In the backwaters, mangroves ecosystem provides resting place to a variety of migratory birds. Noisy construction work and enhanced vehicular movement will cause deterrence to migratory birds and they may abandon this area. The area owned by KPT has mangroves and vegetation cover spread over 400-500 hectares (*over 1000 acres*). The mangrove ecosystem has multiple benefits including resting place for migratory birds and nursery for shrimp and several fish species. Local fishing communities also use these forests for fodder and fuel. Mangrove eco-system in Indus Delta is poorly managed and severely threatened. Projects like Diamond Bar and Sugar Land City can cause severe damage to this eco-system. In past KPT projects like Mai Kolachi road and other infrastructural work along the shore has caused severe damage to mangroves.

As appears from the RFP document, waterfront development is not a single project but it is an amalgamation of several fragmented projects. It is worth mentioning here that the Karachi coast homes an integrated fragile and complex eco-system involving vanishing mangroves,



dwindling fish species and fast disappearing migratory birds. Any development schemes of such scale would have potential negative impact on its eco-system. Also these developments will have far reaching impacts on livelihood of coastal communities. These communities earn their livelihood through beach related leisure activities and subsistence fishing. The waterfront development is bound to bring drastic changes in their centuries old lifestyle. The project proponents are only making hollow claims of compensating and benefiting the local communities without giving any substantial details. Such type of development can have multifarious social environmental impacts.

The RFP document makes it obligatory to conduct *Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)* of the project. However it may be noted that the whole development package on Karachi Coast will have cumulative impact on coastal eco-systems. Therefore project based EIAs may not depict true picture of environmental and social impacts. It requires *Strategic Impact Assessment (both social and environmental)* to take holistic picture of likely impacts on natural resources and local communities. Although the Environmental Protection Act of 1997 calls for EIA of such projects but it is not in sight so far. Environmental regulation in the country and in Sindh particularly, is very weak.

Community Perspective

Hawksbay is home to most under developed centuries old villages of fishing communities. Predominantly Sindhi and Balochi speaking communities are living in this area even before the British Raj. Manoro was the original Karachi, where a fort wall defined the boundary of Karachi at the time of British occupation in 1843.

Even after six decades of independence, these villages are deprived of very basic facilities. Infrastructure and

other social sector services like drinking water, health and education are in its worst shape. Presently there are two union councils on the Hawks bay, namely Gabo Pat and Baba Island. The Gabo Pat Union Council has more than 100 goths, some of them more than a century old.

Baba Island Union Council comprises of three big islands namely Baba Island (16,000 population), Bhit Island (12,000 population) and Shams Pir Island (3,000 population). There are some large villages like Younisabad (3,500 population) and Kaka Pir (1,000 people).

Hawksbay is among the most beautiful resort places in the country. Thousands of visitors frequent beautiful locations such as Cap Mounz, French Beach and Paradise Point on the Hawksbay. Once the city of rich is erected, no common man would have easy access to these charming views of nature. This will also deprive hundreds of daily wage earners at these picnic points. A number of huts constructed in the area would also be demolished. These huts are owned by some individuals and private companies. Local people are hired as caretakers on these huts. If these huts are removed and people stopped visiting picnic points, several hundred local villagers will lose their livelihood resources.

Local communities have genuine concerns that they would be dislodged from their ancestral abodes to pave the way for constructing the modern city. According to a report of Urban Resource Centre, Karachi more than 23,575 houses (excluding houses and shops demolished in the Lyari riverbed due to the Lyari Expressway Project) have been bulldozed by various government agencies since 1992. As a result of these evictions 185,801 people have been displaced. During the period of Jan- May 2006, the government bulldozed over 3,490 houses in the various parts of the city. A total of 23,124 people were made homeless

as result of these evictions. In recently implemented mega projects of Layari Expressway about 25,000 families have been displaced. Majority of them is suffering on many accounts such as compensation, resettlement, loss of employment and breakage of social relations.

As appears from the official documents, the project requires 40,000 acres of land the government has only 19047.53 acres available, that too is not contiguous. This indicates that over 21,000 acres of land would need to be managed in different parts and this may result in non-volunteer displacement of poor communities. The project document has indicated towards this in sugar coated language *There are pockets of land in the proposed Development Area that are not owned by any government entity or agency, and the selected developer will be expected to work with the government entities and agencies and with the actual owners of the land to acquire or find other viable mutually-beneficial and mutual agreeable solutions for these pockets of land.*

Such fears become more acute in absence of any sharing/consultation with local communities. It has become almost a norm in the country to keep information about all big projects confidential from citizens particularly the potential affectees. In this case also all plans are being made behind the close doors and local communities are still unaware of the project and its likely impacts. No consultation with civil society or local communities has been conducted and every thing is shrouded in mystery. This attitude towards development creates genuine concerns among the citizens about these initiatives. □

*Courtesy: Excerpts from
Development to Destroy Nature and
Displace People, (Waterfront
Development on Hawksbay)
by Naseer Memon and Zubaida
Birwani - Pakistan Mahigeer
Tahreek*

SHEHRI ACTIVITIES

Shehri seminar on 'Our Coastline Under Threat' (Saturday, March 08, 2008 - Hotel Avari, Karachi)

Speakers and participants in the seminar opposed coastline projects, saying that development and construction aimed under such projects would not only add to human suffering but also cause further irreparable damage to the flora and fauna of the ecologically sensitive areas.



A common understanding developed among the organisers and participants of the seminar, who had come from different sections of civil society, that the waterfront constructions for commercial purposes in the name of expansion of the city might cause massive displacement and unemployment of the fishermen community, while on the other hand further migration of people in a large number to Karachi would put an extra burden on the city already starving for energy and water resources and other basics, including transport and law order system.

At the end of the seminar, it was resolved with majority votes that the

government must frame master plans for the coastal areas to preserve them for future generations, avoid commercial exploitation of coastal areas, ensure free access to the shores, and not to compromise on the rights of the local fishing communities along the coast under any circumstance.

A consensus was also reached that environmental impact assessment and public hearing should be held in the case of all ongoing waterfront development projects. Sustainable development must be distributed uniformly across the geographical space, rather than being concentrated along the coast, it was further resolved.

In their presentations, the speakers mostly took cue from a project that was proposed by the federal government in 2006 with the objective to sell and privatise a significant portion of Karachi coastline in the west to some foreign parties.

However, at some later stage the participants were also informed that the massive



Urban development or real estate development?

The Federal and Provincial Governments in June 2006, behind closed doors planned to sell and privatize the entire coastline of Karachi. Such a massive undertaking was envisioned without taking into consideration amongst other things, the public trust doctrine which clearly states that the coast belongs to all people regardless of any socioeconomic divide.

Civil society must question what impact such projects would have upon the coastal inhabitants of this area and the fishing communities whose livelihood depends on free and unhindered access to the sea. Furthermore, there is need to ascertain whether this project should go ahead? What adverse effects would there be on the sensitive flora and fauna of the coast and its wetlands. Sandspit and Hawksbay are ecologically sensitive areas where mangroves, migratory birds, green turtle nesting sites, fish life and nurseries abound. The project would encompass zone 2b of the Coastal Development Plan which clearly specifies that no development should take place within this zone. Urban development should not be misconstrued as real estate development. The rights of the citizens of Karachi transcending social divides cannot be sacrificed under any circumstances.

Dharti Members

Baanhn Beli, The Helpline Trust, HRCP, Indus Earth, Institute of Architects, Pakistan (IAP), Karachi Women's Peace Committee, Maheegir Tehrik, PILER, Sahti Bachao, Shehri- CBE, Strengthening Participatory Organization (SPO), Shirkatgah, WWF-Pakistan, Women Action Forum (WAF), War Against Rape (WAR), Pakistan Fisher Folk Forum. □



waterfront development project now appeared to be on the backburner and it now depended on the coming government whether to own the idea.

The government planned to offer about 40,000 acres along the coast, while it had got its own land mass only around 19,000 acres and as such it was obvious that the remaining

lands would be acquired from communities living in the Sandspit and Hawkesbay areas.

Speakers emphasised the preservation of waterfronts and maintained that coastal lands of Karachi, including Hawkesbay and Sandspit, were environmental-ly sensitive areas and had specific value for its sea

plants and other habitats.

It was stressed that efforts should be made to save the treasure of nature. The areas of Sandspit and Hawkesbay are rich in biodiversity, including marine mammals and terrestrial mammals. □



Shehri Workshop on 'Karachi Strategic Development Plan 2020' (1) (Saturday, March 22, 2008 - Hotel Avari, Karachi)

Professionals, members of civil society and representatives of NGOs raised concerns about the *Karachi Strategic Development Plan-2020 (KSDP-2020)* demanding the government to clearly identify its target.

Iftikhar Ali Qaimkhani from the *Master Plan Group of Offices (MPGO)* of the City Government gave a presentation on the KSDP-2020 that was recently approved by the City Council, relating to land use, traffic, sewage treatment and other major issues of the city.

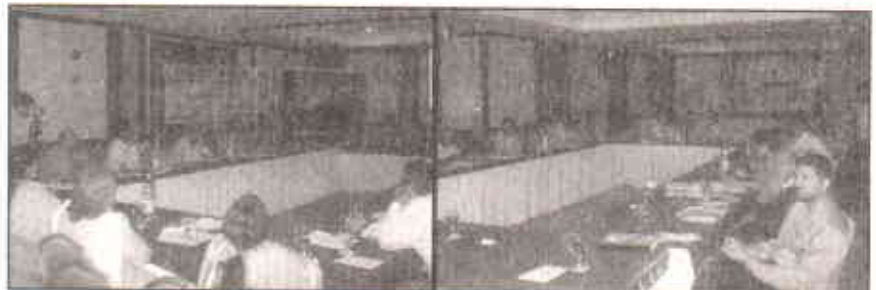
Talking about major traffic arteries entering into the city, Qaimkhani said that at present there were three entry and exit points in the city, including the National Highway, the Super Highway and the RCD Highway. The KSDP-2020 has proposed three more entry and exit points to meet traffic-related issues.

There are 1.5 million registered vehicles in the city and about 600 vehicles are registered daily, he disclosed, adding that, since all these vehicles travel to the south of the city, Saddar Town, it would lead to traffic congestion there. We have recommended six Mass Transit Corridors in the city with the aim to provide affordable and convenient transport to the citizens, said Qaimkhani.

Talking about the land use and housing schemes, he said that the *Master Plan* has proposed the occupancy of the existing housing schemes instead of introducing new ones.

However, the participants alleged that, in most of the housing schemes, political workers and not the low-income groups were targeted. Pointing out that more than 70 per cent of the city's population lives in Katchi Abadis, Tasneem Siddiqui, Chairman of an NGO, Saaiban, said that 60,000 to 70,000 housing plots are annually required for the residents of Katchi Abadis whereas the government approves only 15,000 to 20,000.

The aim of a housing scheme dies, when the plot owners do not live at their plots; and, since the *Non-Utilisation Fee (NUF)* is too paltry, there is no way to discourage them.



He also suggested carrying out a survey in the 800 Goths in the city to identify the land mafia who have illegally grabbed land there. Siddiqui said that he had already floated this suggestion to the government, but, according to him, the government did not pay heed to the suggestion, implying that it does not want the Goths to be legalised.

Architect, Perveen Rehman, said that the KSDP-2020 does not address the issue of bulk water theft and disclosed that 272 million gallon daily (mgd) water was stolen daily.

Qaimkhani said that the current water requirement of the city was 640mgd, which would surge to 1,200mgd by 2020 and emphasised the need to increase the water quota for Karachi by the provincial government.

The participants believed that the document (KSDP-2020) was pretty land-centric instead of being citizen-centric.

The plan is very sketchy with recommendations only and doesn't mention the mechanism through which it would be implemented," said one participant.



Another participant pointed out that the master plan gives incorrect figures with regard to parks and open spaces in the city. Moreover, there were no figures in the plan mentioning the treatment of sewage.

Where the plan talks about densification of the towns, it does not specify parks, playgrounds, schools, hospitals/clinics for the citizens, they said. There's no definition as to how more densification would provide adequate facilities to the citizens, said Naeem Sadiq, a concerned citizen. *Is this all about constructing high-rise buildings or is it bringing about improvements in the standard of living of the citizens?* asked the stakeholders.

Head of the KSDP-2020 designing team, Naveed Zaheer, couldn't address the queries in this regard to the satisfaction of the participants, increasing their frustration.

While pointing out another setback in the KSDP-2020, one participant said that the plan views the city in isolation and has not taken the outskirts into account.

One of the participants raised questions saying that the updated and final version of the Master Plan had not been put on the website which was extremely unfair for the citizens. However, Qaimkhani promised that he would share the final version of the plan with the stakeholders soon and invited suggestions from the participants.

It was agreed that the participants would send their suggestions to the Shehri to be further forwarded to the MPOG. □

Shehri Workshop on 'Karachi Strategic Development Plan 2020' (2) (Saturday, April 26, 2008 - Hotel Avari, Karachi)

One organisation should be responsible for the entire city - only then will the suggestions put forward by the City District Government Karachi (CDGK) be applied properly, participants said at

the workshop on the Karachi Strategic Development Plan (KSDP) - 2020.

The workshop was the second in a series. The first workshop was held around a month ago and had brought to light the fact that the KSDP 2020 may have been put together sans detailed sector reports. Ensuing media coverage of the event had highlighted this fact, and CDGK officials had as a

result decided to boycott all further Shehri-CBE workshops on the topic, even as observers. Subsequently, no CDGK representatives were present at Saturday's event to field questions put forth by participants of the workshop. Organisers of the seminar had reportedly even been told that they could go ahead and hold as many discussions on the document as they wanted, but it *won't change anything because the KSDP-2020 has already been approved by the City Council.*

Economist Kaiser Bengali suggested the slogan of *Ek Shehr, Ek Nizaam* (one city, one system) for Shehri-CBE's upcoming signature campaign





to push for making the CDGK responsible for the entire city, instead of the mere 33 percent that it controls right now. Masood Jafri from the Pakistan Council of Town Planners and Architects presented a synopsis of the KSDP-2020.

The project started off as the Karachi Master Plan 2020, but somewhere along the way, the name was changed to KSDP-2020, he said. Sources at the planning commission said that the point had been raised by the planning commission itself. They were preparing something of a 'vision' for the year 2030, and wanted all urban plans to conform to it. Hence the change in the name of the master plan to the KSDE.

There is, however, a difference between a master plan and a strategic development plan. Jafri said. *A master plan is the result of a detailed investigation into the problems existing today. Initial studies are made for each sector, suggestions are then put forward, and implementable projects are defined. That is, you conduct studies, take input from them, and prepare the master plan. This in fact had been the term of reference for stakeholders in Karachi, too. Sectoral reports were supposed to be produced for the master plan. A strategic development plan, on the other hand, gives a vision, Jafri said. Strategies are then formulated, but those are left to the stakeholders, such as transporters, etc. They know best what needs to be done.*

The current document, Jafri maintained, was neither a master plan, nor a strategic development plan. *It doesn't have the research or studies that would make it a master plan, and on the strategic side, it does not have commitment from stakeholders, he said.*

The second problem, Jafri pointed out, is the fact that the KSDP-2020 states that the CDGK controls only one-third of the entire area of Karachi. *How do you plan to implement your suggestions in areas that you have no jurisdiction over?* he asked. *This is the fourth master plan for Karachi. The*

last three did not work, and this one looks like it may go the same way. The difference this time around however, is that at least the CDGK owns it, so the part relating to the city government will be implemented.

For the plan to be implemented completely, participants at the seminar suggested a campaign to ensure that the CDGK has control over all of Karachi. Jafri suggested the example of the CDA (Capital Development Authority) Ordinance which governs development in Islamabad, where even privately-owned land cannot be developed without approval from the CDA. Moreover, the revenue-generation factor of Karachi should be considered as well, Karachi has a self-propelling economy, the will of millions of people has, in the past, proved to be stronger than any artificial restrictions placed by the government. In light of this industries should be facilitated, especially with respect to power, water and transportation. They should have their own power-production systems, while for water, desalination is the only solution.

Another problem with the document, Jafri said, is that there is no mention of any concrete steps to implement the suggestions. *Committee members are either bureaucrats or research scholars. Stakeholders are not adequately represented there, he said,*

Architect Arif Hasan, in an email sent to Shehri-CBE, described the document succinctly as a mix of intentions and principles. *While many of these principles are environment- and society-friendly, but they could be far more so if certain ambiguities are removed, especially in the housing, land-use, and transport sectors, he said.*

The scale of expansion (for Karachi) envisaged in the document has not been justified by any scientific demo-



graphic study. Hasan said, adding that because of this, one could accuse the plan of being merely a real estate development initiative.

Kaiser Bengali questioned the motivation behind the KSDP-2020 if no donor funding was backing it. *I will need to see numbers before I envisage or implement a project, he said. If my decision has already been made, however, I will forego numbers. What is the motivation behind this plan?*

Participants at the workshop also pointed out that law-and-order had not been addressed in the development plan, neither were megacity and coastal projects being undertaken by the CDGK. Roland D'Souza pointed out that there were a number of positive factors in the document, such as the fact that it categorically stated (on Page 202) that *no development should be allowed in the land area up to 150 meters from the high water mark. In order to implement all of these, however, the CDGK needs to have jurisdiction over all of Karachi.*

The motivation for the KSDP-2020 could be the pressure put in by citizens for addressing the lack of a master plan for the city. *Today the document is available, he said. And now we need to create more nuisance to improve it, Bengali quipped.*

The real problem is the lack of democracy and accountability, Shehri-CBE Chairman Derek Dean said. And in order to change that, the government should make sure that sector reports are made available. □



SHEHRI ADVOCACY

In this section, we highlight some of our ongoing advocacy work and seek active citizen participation for ensuring protection of public interest.

Establishment of industries on 68 acres near heritage site 15th century Chaukhandi Tombs in Bin Qasim Town

We are appalled that the sanctity of this heritage site (protected under the *Antiquities Act 1975*), and notified as Serial. 1.57 dated 7-9-1995 under *Sindh Cultural (Preservation) Act 1994* would be sacrificed by the government at the altar of profit and so-called industrial progress.

If we erase out history and obliterate our past, our future is also doomed. It is imperative that we carefully preserve historical sites like the Chaukhandi Tombs for the benefit of future generations of Pakistanis.

Conservation of a historical cultural site includes preservation of the area around it so that the ambience is protected. Additionally, pollution, effluents, traffic and similar undesirable influences from the new industries will destroy whatever little is left of the graveyard.

Professional and technical advice must be sought from local and international conservation agencies in the matter. The recent closure by the Supreme Court of two industrial steel mills in Islamabad because they were polluting the atmosphere is a case in point.

Illegal commercial construction JM 553, Jamshed Quarter, Dadabhoy Naoroji Road

We ask the relevant authorities to take lawful actions to demolish the illegal construction at the above residential plot which is being unlawfully commercialized. The builders are unauthorizedly constructing/sell-

ing shops on ground floor (@ Rs 70 lacs each), and flats (@ Rs 1 crore each) on the upper floors. Parking spaces are not being provided as per law, and the approved plan is being violated. Unsuspecting citizens are being defrauded.

Please have the unlawful construction / premises sealed immediately in order to protect innocent people from being cheated. KBCA must also institute criminal prosecution u/s 19 of SBCO 1979 against the builder, the licensed architect, engineer, and the colluding DCB and ACB.

Overflowing Gutter due to the negligence of Road Works Department Plot No. 165-A, Sir Syed Road, Block-3, P.E.C.H.S., Karachi

Three months back the major roads in Block 2 PECHS were dug up with the purpose of laying a new carpet cover on the road. One track of Sir Syed Road was also dug up for the same purpose. However, the pace of work was very slow and also all the debris of dug-up road was dumped into the main sewerage lines. At that time also a protest had been lodged to the supervisor-at-site, who had promised to clear all the sewerage lines as well as replace all the damaged manhole covers, within 2 days. It never happened.

However, it has been more than a month since all work has come to a standstill. All the good work done by CDGK in laying the foundation of the new carpeting is going to waste as all the top layer is getting eroded. Is it not a clear and deliberate attempt at

wastage of public money, and who in CDGK should be held responsible for the choking of the sewerage line and wastage of public money.

Please have the sewerage lines cleared immediately so that the sewerage accumulated on the road gets cleared away. Have all the damaged man-hole covers replaced as they are a constant source of danger to life. Complete the carpeting of the road, as the kutcha top layer is causing constant dust pollution leading to breathing problems for the residents, a health hazard.

Proposed 46-floor "I.T. Tower & Call Centre" near Civic Centre Plot No. ST-3, Block 14, Gulshan-e-Iqbal

We appreciate CDGK's efforts to put Karachi on the map of the world. However, we are extremely concerned about the paucity of information made available to the general public and about the environmental impact of this proposed project on the surrounding area.

A few preliminary issues that need to be addressed include:

- 1) As per the notified Town-Planning of the improvement scheme of Gulshan-e-Iqbal (*KDA Scheme No. 24*), this plot is part of a public building/amenity plot (*the Civic Centre & KBCA Annexe have been built on the remaining part*). Consequently:
 - a) the plot-ratio allowed for amenity plots by the Zoning Regulations is 1:1 (*and this*



may have all been consumed by the afore-mentioned two buildings)

- b) an amenity plot cannot be used for commercial purposes (commercial offices, shops, hotel, etc.)
- 2) With a part plot area of 14,219m², a building of 250,000m² implies a plot ratio approximately 1: 17.6. This is far in excess of the highest plot-ratio (1: 6) available in KBTPR 2002, and more than the highest plot ratio (1: 15) available in New York City.
- 3) This part of the amenity plot recently accommodated over 600 cars for visitors of the Civic Centre, KBKA, KWSB, Radio Pakistan and other government buildings in the area, which have no parking facilities of their own. Where will these cars now be parked? The 2,100 cars parking space provided in the proposed project will be scarcely enough for the vehicles of the project itself.
- 4) A Town-Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) study has to be made of the ecological footprint on the surrounding area and infrastructure of such mammoth buildings, especially when they are not par to the original town-planning? As a minimum this study must cover the:
 - a) availability of electricity (12 - 15MW), water & sewerage (over 200,000 gallons/day)
 - b) increase in area population (approximately 20,000 more persons)
 - c) increased traffic flows (approximately 2,100 more cars)

We would be pleased to assist the CDGK in addressing the above issues.

Proposed CNG Station at Plot No. 591, Jamshed Quarters, New MA Jinnah Road, Karachi

OBJECTIONS TO THE CONVERSION OF THE PLOT

- A) Copy of the technical justification studies made in the light of the planning of the area (as per Regulation 18-4.2.2 of KBTPR 2002, and other town-planning laws), including availability of utilities, infrastructure and amenities have not been provided.
- B) Copy of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) carried out in accordance with Item H-1 of Schedule-II of Review of IEE & EIA Regulations, 2002 notified under PEP A 1997 (noise, air pollution, utilities, infrastructure, crime, introduction of strangers into the neighbourhood, etc) of the proposed conversion, with date of public participation hearing, has also not been provided.
- C) Copy of the CNG station layout showing:
 - a] compliance with safety requirements and clearances from equipment
 - b] entrance and exit provisions for vehicles, and their effect on road traffic.
 - c] waiting spaces for vehicles, etc

None of the above provisions of the conversion procedures as laid down in KBTPR and EPA were followed. Shehri raised objections to the public notice but no hearing was held so how was the plot commercialized.

OBJECTIONS TO THE PRESENCE OF THE CNG STATION IN RESIDENTIAL AREA

We draw your attention to the following point:

- * The Oil & Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) specifically states in their Provisional License that: *The CNG station will not be located in a residential area.*
- * Regulation 25-12.6 of KBTPR states that *no CNG shall be located within 300 ft of crossing of two major arteries or a roundabout.* The proposed CNG station is located 240 ft from one main intersection, and 205 ft from the other intersection.
- * On this New M.A. Jinnah Road another CNG station of PSO already exists, and under the OGRA rules, there has to be a minimum distance between two CNG stations. The distance between this proposed CNG and the existing PSO CNG is 400 ft approx.
- * Proposed CNG plot is facing a 20 ft wide residential road, under 25-12.8 KBTPR 2002 they can only be located on roads having minimum 60 ft wide. The KBKA/MPGO have allowed the owner/builder to also use the 20 ft wide road, as that side has the greater frontage (90ft), and consequently the queue of cars on 20ft wide road will be a source of eternal traffic jams, playing havoc with the movement of vehicles for the residences. If at all the owners of the CNG station argue that their plot faces the 200 ft wide New M.A. Jinnah road, then they should only be allowed to use the 200 ft wide road, and the access to the 20 ft wide road (more a lane than a road) should be closed to protect the privacy of the residential area.

Will the owners of the proposed CNG station be willing to live right next to a CNG station and thus expose their own families to this explosive hazard? If not what right do they have to risk others to a hazard of their own creation. □



INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS

Shehri project on police reforms: An update

Shehri's project on Police Reforms continues to make a positive contribution in building capacity of the police cadre and bridging the trust gap between the police and the community. An Update is being provided on the activities of the Third Quarter.

The Goals for the Third Quarter (January-March 2008) are identified as follows:

- * Development and upgrading the citizens' help desk.
- * Third training workshop on Participatory Citizen-Police Interaction and Training for Improved Policing of Human Rights Violations
- * Observing the performance of police officers who were part of the project.
- * Brochure on How to Lodge First Information Report (FIR)?

Activities during the Third Quarter

Development and upgrading of the Citizens' Help Desk

As part of the project, Shehri-CBE established a citizen's help desk. As the name reflects, the citizens' help desk is meant to facilitate citizens at the police station and has become a kind of a first stop for citizens. This help desk initially was established in 2003 during the tenure of Mr. Tariq Jameel then DIGP (Operations) Karachi. To make the help desk more effective for the citizens, during the reporting period the help desk was upgraded at Ferozabad Police Station, Jamshed Town under the supervision of DSP (Rtd.) Jahan Khan Bhatti.

The Citizens help desk has the following objectives:

- * To empower the citizens through

information sharing.

- * To encourage citizens to take ownership of the help desk and use it as a first stop for their complaints.
- * To address the trust deficit that exists between the police and citizens.
- * To raise awareness amongst the citizens about their rights.
- * To engage in a meaningful dialogue and consultation with the Police officers of *Operation and Investigation* wings of Police Station Ferozabad (Jamshed Town).

Capacity building workshop

As per the work plan of the project, during the third quarter Shehri-CBE was required to conduct a capacity building training workshop based on the third module. This is further to the trainings workshops conducted on Training Module 1 and 2 conducted previously. A series of 5 Training workshops are being conducted with a select group of Police Inspectors, SHOs from Karachi Police. Two Training Workshops each have already been organized with the selected group in August and November - 2007 respectively. The previous trainings covered area like Human Rights in the context of the Constitution and existing policies of Pakistan and religious dimensions of Human Rights.



The series of trainings intend to provide a comprehensive perspective of Human Rights to the Police Trainees. These trainings would enhance the understating of participants to reflect on the issue of violation of Human Rights in the outlook of Police and on the other, it would enhance their capacities to promote and protect Human Rights in the General Community. Third training module focuses on fundamental Human Rights in the context of vulnerable groups with specific attention on women, children and minorities.

The primary objectives of the training workshops were to (a) help participants to identify and understand what different vulnerable groups in our society are and why they are vulnerable? (b) Enhance participants understating about the impact of gender stereotypes on vulnerable groups (c) Increase participant's sensitivity about the right of vulnerable groups in our society and (d) Highlight the role of Police in protection of rights of the vulnerable groups.

The trainer was Mr. Babar Bashir of Rozan Islamabad who invited participants to share their case studies success stories. A number of participants



shared their success stories. some are discussed below:

A school girl was brought before me by the staff. She had been found sitting on the foot path after school hours and in spite of being asked a number of times, she was not sharing anything with the police. I made her sit with me and gave her cookies all the time asking for her parents details. After some time she shared with me that she had run away from home because in her opinion, her mother favored her brothers and not her. That is why she had decided to leave home. She then disclosed her parent's names and addresses after which the girl was reconciled with her parents.

- Lady Inspector Zaib un Nisa

After sharing of the success stories, role playing of a Town Hall meeting or *Khulli Katchehri* was conducted.

Four participants were chosen and briefed separately about the activity. Each was given the role of a woman, a child, a disabled person and a Non-Muslim Pakistani. The trainer handed them each a card stating their role (*not to be shown to the other group members.*). The trainer asked the group that a situation is presented in which all of them represent a community while one of the participants is a Senior Police Officer (*DIGP Operations*) who has come to the community for an open *Katchehri*. These four people will not participate in the *Khulli Katchehri*. The reason for their non participation is that the woman fears to come in front of such a large group, the non Muslim feels that being a minority he does not have say, and the child and disabled physically cannot.

The idea of the role playing was to make the participants feel the helplessness of people who think they have no say. For instance, the women are vulnerable due to socio cultural norms of our society that restrict their mobility. In cases where they have to come out of their homes they find it

very difficult and especially when it is a Police related issue. Among the women, those who are disabled, elderly or tending to children will have more difficulty than others in accessing to the available services. Children are also powerless and dependent on others and thus vulnerable. Children have their own specific needs that must be kept in mind while dealing with issues or children.

At the end of the exercise, a discussion on how to address their handicaps took place. Following were the recommendations:

- * To spread awareness among the citizens of their responsibility, duties, rights as owners.
- * To build trust between area police and residents, create a friendly environment and remove misunderstanding between citizens and police.
- * To encourage mutual respect between police and area residents for better environment of law and order based upon mutual trust and respect.
- * To develop institutions to build friendly working relationship between the area police and residents the *Shehri-CBE Citizens Help Desk* being a case in point.

This discussion was then followed by a visual imaginative exercise. The participants were asked to close their eyes and visualize an ideal society. The participants were then asked as to what they had imagined? That is what an ideal society is for them. According to the participants an ideal society is one in which:

- * Men and women both have equal rights.
- * People take care of others rights and enjoy all facilities equally.



- * There is no discrimination.
- * Women and men are un-biased.
- * All citizens have access to basic facilities of education, health care etc.
- * There is mutual respect.
- * There is confidence between the government and the citizens.
- * People live their lives according to their private religious beliefs
- * There is no feudal system.
- * The laws, court systems and other Govt. departments are efficient and managed properly.
- * There is rule of law and equality before the law.

The participants were then divided into three groups. Each of the group had a task. One group was asked to imagine being children in an ideal society, the other to be a women and the third to be a Non-Muslim Pakistani. The groups were asked to deliberate on the following questions:

- * How are the child/women, minority persons treated?
- * How does the child/woman, minority person feel?
- * What does the child/woman, minority person do?

The participants came up with the following responses:

A child in an Ideal Society

- * A child is treated with love and respect, is not asked, abused or harmed by others, is given an education and opportunities for development, gets attention and guidance, is protected, gets good health care.
- * A child goes to school, plays, has



friends, learns, develops, manages his emotions well, and has good relationships with his family.

A woman in an Ideal Society

- * A woman is given the rights accorded to her in Islam such as earning a living, education respect and safety.
- * A woman is treated with respect and love, she is considered equal to men, given all her legal, social and religious rights, she is not harmed, abused or exploited by others, she does not face discrimination in jobs or educational institutions.
- * A woman feels safe anywhere she goes at any time, no matter what she is doing or wearing, she has a high self-esteem, and she feels self-confident.
- * Women are safe and feel comfortable in Public environments.
- * A woman makes her own choices. She looks after her home and family and her own needs, she gains an education, she earns a living, she votes, she expresses her needs, she has friends, she socializes, she spends time with her family. She develops herself as a person; she communicates openly, she stands up for her rights and for justice.

A religious minority person in an Ideal Society

- * A minority person is treated with respect and acceptance.
- * He is given all his legal, social and religious rights.
- * He does not face discrimination in jobs or educational institutions.
- * He is allowed to practice his own religion and beliefs freely.

Mrs. Najma Sadique of *Shirkat Gah* Karachi was also one of the resource persons for the workshop. She focused on the importance of human rights understanding and sensitization of police personnel. She also shared with the participants a brochure titled *Who Dunya ko Kesey Chala Rahe Hain Ya Hameen Ghareeb Kaun Banata Hai Aalmi Moeeshat (Who is running the world and who is making us poor?)*

The training concluded on a talk by Justice (Rtd.) Majida Rizvi, Former Chairperson of the *National Commission on the Status of Women*. Justice Majida Rizvi urged the participants to protect the rights of vulnerable groups in society as much as they possibly can. She told the participants that innocent people were still being picked up by law enforcement agencies. She recalled a case of a poor woman whose son was rounded up by the police in a perfunctory manner. He spent nine months in prison without any reason. Justice Rizvi quoted an incident and said a family invited her to be one of the witnesses on the marriage certificate (*Nikanama*). The family considered it to be an honor for them to have a female judge as one of the witnesses. However, the mullah refused to go through with the nikkah or marriage ceremony stating that a woman cannot be a witness. Justice Rizvi declared that if being a judge she can hand down a death sentence so how can't she be a witness? Thus such ideas of gender inequality are still prevalent in Pakistani society.

Field observations

Field visits were to be conducted during the third quarter of the project.

Justice Rizvi' quoted an incident and said a family invited her to be one of the witnesses on the marriage certificate (*Nikanama*). The family considered it to be an honor for them to have a female judge as one of the witnesses. However, the mullah refused to go through with the nikkah or marriage ceremony stating that a woman cannot be a witness. Justice Rizvi declared that if being a judge she can hand down a death sentence so how can't she be a witness?

The primary purpose of the field visits was to evaluate the performance of the police personnel and determine whether or not the trainings conducted during the project have had an effect or not. A five member observation team was constituted comprising of DSP(R) Jahan Khan Bhatti, Project Coordinator Police training workshops, Mr. Rehan Ashraf, Mr. Sarwar Khalid, Mr. Mir Muhammad Mustafa and Mr. Zeeshan Ahmed.

Inspector Javed Akhtar Kiyani East Headquarter Hassan Square 0333-2148300.

He is R.I (*Reserve Inspector*) of the newly created 600 Mohafiz Force stationed in Headquarters Hassan Square and meant to control street crime in Karachi. He has fully trained this force and utilizes them in platoons in all the 18 towns of Karachi to control street crime. He has performed duty in Kosovo under the UN programme.

He publishes two monthly magazines;

- a) *Voice of Police* to improve the relationship between Police and Public.
- b) Monthly Magazine captioned *Pak Police Karachi - Police aur awam ke darmiyan rabtey ka wahid zariyya (the only magazine that liaisons between citizens and police)*



We examined their records and enquired from different subordinates about the implementation of Human Rights and Violation of Human Rights. Most of subordinate officials confirmed that Inspector Javed Akhtar Kiyani in the Daily Roll Calls gives small lectures on the topic of human rights and violation of human rights, instructs them to create friendly relations with citizens if they wanted to be successful in police service. He is the leading cadet of the police training workshops.

Brochure on First Information Report

During the third quarter, Shehri-CBE developed and printed a brochure titled *How to Lodge an FIR?* This brochure which was printed in both English and Urdu seeks to explain to

the citizen the process of lodging an FIR. The FIR as the name suggests is the first entry of a crime in the police records and therefore of immense importance. Unfortunately, because of complications and deficiencies in the FIR vital information is lost thus effecting the citizens' case later. The brochure seeks to educate the citizen on the proper method of lodging an FIR.

Concluding note

It has been observed that the project has also contributed towards trust building. This trust building was observed not just between citizens and policemen but also amongst the police personnel themselves.

At the first workshop, there existed an environment of mistrust between the

police personnel of various stations. The police personnel were also wary of the citizens and Shehri-CBE as they were unsure of what lay ahead. However, this environment visibly changed during the second workshop where they participated actively within the training times but also during the breaks. They were no longer wary of Shehri-CBE nor the citizens as they realized that our aim was not to humiliate them nor be condescending towards them. They began to open up and in the third workshop there was a tremendous difference with the group carrying on discussions in a very friendly environment. It is felt that this relationship of mutual trust actually contributes to the project sustainability as that would survive long after the project is finished. □

Policy and Planning in Karachi City - Identifying the Fault lines: Social and Environmental Implications of the Change in Land Use Policy - 2004

On February 12, 2004, the City District Government Karachi approved the Change of Land Use and Master Planning Bye Laws - 2003, thereby allowing Commercialization of Seventeen (17) major roads in Karachi City. The policy decision was not preceded by any comprehensive and independent study that may have looked into the possible environmental and social impacts of this change in land use - both good and bad. This practice, though highly objectionable was very much in keeping with the manner in which major decisions have been reached and implemented in the past in Karachi City concerning land development.

For most of its life, since forming part of Pakistan, the city has developed without taking recourse to a functioning or duly sanctioned Master Plan, for the simple reason that none existed. This disconnect between policy/planning and development, among other related factors, has given rise to dysfunctional and haphazard growth patterns, driven not primarily in response to the actual needs and demands of the public at large - with regards meeting their

social, environmental and communal needs, rather for the benefit of the few and based mostly on the financial or political returns associated with a parcel of land.

Notwithstanding the concerns associated with the merits and quality of the document, the city nevertheless is presently served by a functioning and duly sanctioned Master Plan. It is therefore critically important that the citizen groups, media, academia, independent experts keep a close watch on the implementation of the Plan, in terms of its long term environmental and social concerns and its capacity to ensure sustainable and a socially, environmentally and financially viable growth of the city.

The present *Study*, being conducted by Shehri-CBE is an effort to highlight the consequences of policy decisions taken without taking recourse to public opinion and in the absence of accurate data reflecting the potential adverse impacts -consequently without incorporating any mitigation measures - associated with policy implementation. The Study would look into the legal, institutional and development context within which the policy

decision was taken. It would assess the areas affected (commercialized roads/surroundings) in terms of the before and after physical, social and environmental landscape.

A few representative roads would be short listed for a more detailed study including the conducting of physical and public opinion surveys to assess the impact of the land use change. The policy to implementation cycle would be traced to identify the fault lines and gaps. The proper methodologies involved in land use change with examples of global best practices that blend in a sustainable manner the needs of urban development, related financial returns and the protection of the natural/physical environment would be highlighted.

The issues would be assessed within the backdrop of the institutional setup mandated and authorized for decision making in the city with recommendations for change where ever gaps are identified. Analytical tools such as 'Problem in Context' and SWOT analysis would be employed for evaluation and assessment. □

URBAN LAND MANAGEMENT

Illegal commercialization of residential areas

What are the reasons for illegal commercialization of residential areas? How does this activity impacts on the lives of the affected citizens? What can be done to reverse this trend? These are some of the important questions that are tackled in the following discussion.

In the past few years the residential areas of Karachi have been forcibly encroached by commercial offices / shops / unlawful buildings. This has destroyed many residential zones turning whole areas into commercial districts. What are the causes of the illegal encroachments in residential areas? A major reason is residential zones are cheaper than commercial zones

The infrastructure (*electricity, water supply, sewerage*) is better in many residential areas. The residential areas are less congested than officially designated commercial areas. The main problem is that of lax enforcement. The government officials / inspectors in charge of ensuring enforcing zoning / building codes are openly corrupt or indifferent. The final choice for residents have to stop commercial encroachments in residential areas is to go to law courts - however this is a time consuming and expensive process.

The commercial enterprises that forcibly take over residential areas

are wealthy and influential. They use the sharpest lawyers and have the resources to wear the original residents down by filing court case after court case. Many residents prefer to move out of the area after the commercial interests take over - hence speeding up the deterioration of the entire area.

What are the consequences of illegal commercialization? A residence may have 8 people living in a house. However a commercial enterprise taking over the same house may have 50 or 100 people in the same area. This leads to parking congestion & traffic problems. Most residences have 1 or 2 cars that can be accommodated in the house. However in a commercial enterprise 50 or 100 people need to park motorcycles / cars - which are parked on the road and encroach on the pavements.



and lack of privacy.

A Case Study of a Residential Area

Tipu Sultan Road is an officially notified residential road - however the whole area has been encroached by powerful commercial enterprises. In Pic # 1, you will note that a wall built on the pavement by the owner of the illegal building! A close up of the encroachments on the pavement - the entire pavement is fenced in and guarded by armed security personnel. As there is no parking space the office staff / visitors park the cars of the pavements & roads.

As there is no parking space the office cars are parked in the side lanes causing problems for the other residents. Some residents living in the side lanes have put *rock barriers* in front of the houses out of desperation to stop the office cars from parking in front of their houses. Otherwise they are helpless against this problem.

Is there a solution?

The Government often affirms their interest in curbing illegal commercialization.



There is tremendous strain & in many cases breakdown of the utilities (*water, electricity, sewerage*) because of increased occupants in the illegal commercial enterprises. The residential residents face environmental degra-



Shehri has written to Karachi Building Control Authority (KBCA) and the other government officials about various violations in different locations including the illegal commercial offices on Tipu Sultan Road. Detailed information was sent along with photos. However as usual there was no acknowledgement forthcoming - let alone action.

Can there be a solution or are all areas Karachi doomed to eventually become commercialized slums? *The Karachi*

Building Control Authority (KBCA) is supposed to approve the building plan and their inspectors visit an under construction on each stage of the building process. The construction of a building cannot continue without the confirmation of inspectors that the construction is as per approved plan. A building whose construction has major violations can only be made in connivance of the KBCA staff. In case of gross irregularities all the involved KBCA staff should be terminated immediately. At this moment the

KBCA staff has nothing to worry about. The courts must go far beyond deciding which party has a sharper lawyer. Zoning Violations & Building Code violations are part of *Public Interest Litigation (PIL)*. If the building is made against the approved plans or there is a clear cut zoning violation then there should be swift and immediate action against the malefactors. In case of land use change, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must ensure a proper study on the environmental impact. □

Bernadette to replace Mira as Kinnaird's Principal



Dr Bernadette Louise Dean, Associate Professor and Head of Academic and Student Affairs Aga Khan University, and active member of Shehri-CBE (*Wife of Shehri-CBE Chairperson, Derrick Dean*) has been designated as Principal of Kinnaird College. She will take over the charge from Dr Mira Phailbus in September.

Dr Dean completed her schooling at St Lawrence School and college education at St Joseph College in Karachi. She did her MSc in Psychology from the University of Karachi and MEd (Teacher Education)

from Aga Khan University, Karachi. She did her PhD from the University of Alberta, Canada. Dr Dean joined Aga Khan University's Institute for Educational Development in 1996.

At the Institute, her major areas of responsibility involved academic leadership at the PhD and Master's levels. *My major areas of specialisation are social studies education, citizenship education, curriculum development and action research*, Dr Dean said.

She also facilitated development of junior faculty and research staff. She was also team leader of the *CRRP Programme* that involves provision of academic, research and administrative leadership of the team.

Dr Bernadette L Dean has to her credit a large number of publications in international journals of repute. Her research interests are teacher education, social

studies education, citizenship' and human rights education, curriculum development, teaching and learning in Pakistani schools, education and development and gender and education. She has also written some books including *Creating a better world: education for citizenship*.

Dr Bernadette L Dean is founder member of *Association of Social Studies Educators and Teachers and South Asian Forum for Education Development*.

She is on the *Council of Social Sciences Pakistan* and member of the editorial board of the *International Journal of Citizenship, Teaching and Learning*. She is member of the editorial board of the *Journal Educational Action Research, St. Patrick's College, Karachi* and *Academic Committee of Aga Khan Education Services*. □

WATER ISSUES

The Karachi water scenario: Some hard facts

Shehri highlights some key findings of a recently conducted study by the Orangi Pilot Project (OPP) on the water sector in Karachi that breaks some new ground.

Some key aspects of the study findings are discussed below:

- * **Source of supply:** There are two sources of water supply in Karachi, i) River Indus supplies 1200 cusecs daily equal to 645 MGD; and ii) Hub dam supplies about 50 MGD. The Hub dam supply is rain fed so it fluctuates between about 30-75 MGD.

The total water supply to Karachi is 695 MGD. However, 30 MGD are supplied to the Steel mills and Port Qasim before the water reaches the Dhabeji pumping station leaving the city with 665 MGD.

- * **Bulk distribution:** The supply from the River Indus comes via canals from Kinjhar, Haleji, Gharo, and through conduits to the Dhabeji pumping station. The water is then distributed via conduits, and distribution mains of diameters 66 inches and below. The routes are divided into, a) Northern - via Pipri to parts of the Malir cantonment areas, Gulshan COD reservoir, Gulshan Town then parts of Gadap, North Karachi, NEK, N.Nazimabad, Gulberg, Liaquatabad and parts of Lyari; and b) Southern, i.e Bin Qasim town, Landhi, Korangi, along the National Highway to Shah Faisal, Jamshed town, Saddar town (including Defence/Clifton), Lyari and Kaemari. The water mains at places are interconnected. The Hub source supply is mainly for Orangi, Site and Baldia towns. The Hub and Indus supplies at the level of the distribution mains

are interconnected. The supply is therefore shared, as needed.

- * **Towns quota:** The Karachi water and Sewerage Board (KWSB) has a quota of 417.65 MGD, of the available water for supply to the towns, the Cantonment and DHA areas. However the actual supply reaching the towns is only about 293 mgd. Seven towns - Orangi, Gadap, Baldia, Jamshed, Site, North Karachi and Gulshan get 30-57 per cent of their quota, others get about 60-100 per cent. Cantonment gets 100 per cent, while DHA gets 133 per cent. Details are in appendix-2.

- * **Official supply through tankers:** The KWSB has nine official hydrants, managed by the Rangers (*para-military*), for supply of water through tankers. The officially sanctioned quantum of water is 13.75 MGD, to be supplied by 13,750 tanker trips. In reality 25 MGD is supplied through about 8,377 tanker trips. Details of the survey are in appendix-3.

The official rate for water supplied through tankers ranges from 15ps/gallon to 25ps/gallon depending on the distance, and whether it is for residential or commercial use. The rates are: for 1000 gallons Rs. 150-250; 2000 gallons Rs. 300-450; 3000



gallons Rs. 450-800; 5000 gallons Rs. 1200. In reality the rates are more than doubled to 35-60 ps/gallon depending on the distance, bargaining with clients and the season in which the water is supplied and these rates are: for 1000 gallons Rs. 350-600; 2000 gallons Rs. 700 - 1200; 3000 gallons Rs. 1600-1800; 5000 gallons Rs. 2000-2400. Therefore, the revenue generated per day from sale of water is average Rs. 10 million. This is shared between the various actors.

- * **Unofficial supply through tankers:** In addition to the official hydrants there are many more unofficial hydrants/ filling points all over Karachi, mostly located near the bulk distribution mains. There are about six areas in Karachi where clusters of hydrants and filling points have been reported: i) Hub reservoir to Banaras Chowk, along the Manghopir road; ii) Banaras chowk to Gutter Bagicha; iii) Mewashah graveyard to Shershah along Lyari nadi; iv) Near Saba Cinema, Ayub Goth - North Karachi and up into Gadap town; v) Along the National Highway - Malir 6) Lalabad



Landhi. There are a total 161 unofficial hydrants/filling points reported.

Besides these, many more filling points have been reported in all the towns. Sample survey of nine unofficial hydrants was undertaken. These are located along the main roads and in four of the clusters 19.78 MGD water is being supplied from these unofficial hydrants/filling points.

Private Tankers Association: Private Tankers Association has reported that their members own 5000 tankers. Of these 60 per cent are of 5000 gallons capacity, 30 per cent of 3000-2000 gallons and 10 per cent of 1000 gallons. Each tanker makes 10-12 trips daily i.e. a total of 50,000-60,000 trips are made. About 185-222 MGD is supplied, of which 70 per cent is supplied to the industries.

- * **Supply for industrial areas:** KWSB's quota for the five industrial areas is 46 MGD: for Landhi - 13 MGD, Korangi - 14 MGD, SITE - 10.76 MGD, North Karachi - 5 MGD and for F.B area - 3 MGD. This quota is included in the towns supply

The sweet water requirement for industries ranges from 100-145 MGD. About 90 per cent needs are met through the tanker supplies i.e. 90-131 MGD. It appears therefore that the KWSB's quota does not reach the industrial areas.

- * **Minimum requirement for residents:** Surveys show that the minimum requirement of water supply for the lower income and lower middle income residents is about 20 gallons/person/day.
- Karachi's population is 16 million and with a minimum requirement of 20g/p/d, its need is 320 MGD; industries need an average of 123 MGD; for other uses the calculated average is 110

MGD. The total comes to 553 mgd. If higher incomes needs are added (i.e. an extra 15g/p/d for 20 per cent of the population) the total comes to 601 mgd.

Bulk supply to towns is 293 MGD and thus there is a shortfall of between 260 to 308 mgd. This shortfall is met through tanker supplies.

Karachi's bulk supply is 665 MGD. With 15 per cent wasted due to technical leakages, the available supply comes to 565.25 MGD. The gap between the actual supply and the availability is 272.25MGD which is siphoned from the bulk distribution and sold through tanker supplies. This operation generates an estimated Rs. 49.6 billion annually (at the average cost of Rs. 0.5/gallon).

Th nine hydrants surveyed supplied about 20 MGD. This data when extrapolated over the 161 hydrants reported shows that these can supply about 358 MGD; 25 MGD is supplied from the official hydrants; about 333 MGD is supplied through the unofficial hydrants. There is 86 MGD supply of brackish water, which is used by some industries as well as by the residents in water deficient areas.

The power prices: Frequent power breakdowns disrupt the quantum and schedule of supply: Most of the water is pumped and the supply is thus dependent on the supply of electricity. Due to frequent unannounced power breakdowns, the schedule of water supply to areas is thrown into chaos. This results in disruption in supplies, leading to acute water shortages, area conflicts, violence,

unplanned connections and use of suction pumps.

A fifteen minutes power breakdown in the bulk can lead to 3-4 hours delay in supply. A number of times this also causes leakages and bursting of pipes due to the bulk's return pressure. Power supply at the bulk pumping station (P.S), town P.S and area P.S all have to be synchronised for the schedule to be followed. With breakdowns in one the supply goes into a spin. All towns have reported daily power breakdowns. There are generators at the five bulk P.S (*Dhabeji, Pipri, COD, NEK and Hub*) but these do not operate efficiently, so the switch over takes time. Effort is being made by KWSB, since long, to acquire power plants on BOT basis for the four main bulk water pumping stations but the plan has not materialized as yet. For the town and area P.S, standby generators are being installed.

- * **KWSB's organizational difficulties:**

- **Unplanned connections,** both official and unofficial abound in all towns. Use of suction pumps is common, resulting in lack of pressure and faulty distribution. Everywhere there are the issues of verandas or portions of buildings extending over the water lines. This makes maintenance very difficult and at times such undertakings are prone to violent reactions from owners of the premises.

- In all the towns there is a lack of technically trained staff. The situ-





ation is compounded by the ban on recruitment within KWSB, since 1994. Most towns just have 4-5 technically trained field staff i.e. engineers or diploma holders. Most of the operational work, for example valve operation, maintenance and repairs, are managed by people on the posts of fitters, baidars and coolies, who have learnt the work on the job.

In many places residents have kept, on payment, their own valve-men and these and others, numbering about 10-15 valve-men per town have been taken on daily wages by the KWSB in 2007.

Documentation of the existing systems mostly the distribution mains is available with the KWSB field staff. These need to be updated.

KWSB has a meager annual O&M budget of Rs. 1.2 million per town. Development projects and repair works are undertaken through other funds like the Tameer-e-Karachi program, Provincial and City Government's annual development programs and also through the MNA, MPA, UC and town Nazim's funds. Most main line works are undertaken through the KWSB, while most secondary and lane level works like laying of pipelines, valve placements and repair works are undertaken independently of KWSB by the City Government, Town, UC, MNAs, MPAs and residents.

KWSB's current annual budget (2007-2008) is Rs. 5.3 billion; Rs. 2 to 2.5 billion are recovered as the water/sewerage taxes, rest is government subsidy. A total of Rs. 18.678 billion are outstanding dues against the government and others.

Water supply to all at afford-

able and humane costs is possible: A comparison of the KWSB's annual budget of Rs. 5.3 billion to the Rs. 49.6 billion generated from the sale of 272 MGD, that is siphoned and supplied through tankers, shows the irony of the situation. If KWSB can supply this water, it can earn profit as well and provide water to all at affordable, humane costs.

Example: If only the minimum requirement of 20g/p/d (320 MGD) is supplied at the humane cost of 5 ps/g, Rs. 5.8 billion can be generated annually. This is more than the KWSB's annual budget. Through sale of the rest, about 245 MGD, at the present average, tanker supply, rate of 50 ps/gallon, Rs. 44.7 billion can be generated annually. This is the huge bonus that can be used to resolve the issues 2 & 3 as stated below.

Priority Issues:

- 1) Siphoning of 272 mgd (41%) of water from the bulk distribution and its supply through tankers and sale on profit, generating an estimated Rs. 49.6 billion - the profitable parallel supply.
- 2) Electricity breakdown causing daily disruptions and reductions in supplies while schedules cannot be followed. This in turn gives rise to serious problems in supply and management.
- 3) KWSB's organizational difficulties such as lack of technical staff, meager maintenance budget, lack of recovery of water/sewerage tax from GOP and the financial dependence on government (*i.e. subsidy for financing the managerial and development expenses*).

Problems 2 & 3 are linked to KWSB's managerial and financial difficulties which are intrinsically linked to issue 1.

Solution:

- 1) Bulk distribution system is a strategic asset, so it has to be considered to be such. Siphoning has to be stopped on war footing.

KWSB has the technical responsibility to undertake technical plugging of the bulk distribution, while Nazims have to play the political role of ensuring that the bulk distribution remains unhampered. Mega management is needed. This would enable provision of water to all at an affordable humane cost as already detailed, while making KWSB a solvent institution.

Metering of bulk supply is essential. This will assist in checking the siphoning and ensuring that towns get their share. Once the water reaches the towns its distribution can be handled by TMAs and UCs and be linked to recovery of water taxes within towns. The siphoning and technical leakages within town can then be handled. Quotas to towns can be revised considering the current population and its needs, unlike the present quota.

Efforts for metering the bulk distribution have always been made by KWSB. Latest push was about a year back and continues, but then there is no implementation.

* Official supplies through tankers should revert to KWSB. As supply by rangers has not resulted in solving the problem. KWSB and elected Nazims will have to be responsible and so accountable for managing this supply. Since a year there are CDGK orders for the same, but then the handing over has always been delayed.

The phase wise steps needed to stop the siphoning can be decided on further discussions with KWSB, suppliers and citizens. Once it is accepted



that there is siphoning, detailed actions needed can be identified through forums.

- 2) Independent power supply is needed. KWSB's plans for installing power plants at the bulk P.S and generators at the area P.S will resolve the problems of breakdowns. Finances

are needed for these With siphoning controlled KWSB can invest in this vital need.

- 3) Resolution of KWSB's organizational issues is linked to 1 and 2 so possible, with the following:
a) acceptance of the priority issue of siphoning and making efforts to resolve it, in the process gen-

erating finances, becoming efficient and independent; and b) deciding that water supply has to be a public sector responsibility and working towards making the organization a viable public sector institution. □

Courtesy: Orangi Pilot Project

KWSB's Townwise quota for water supply and the actual received.

Sr. No.	Town	Quota (mgd)*	Actual Received	
			(mgd)!	% quota
1.	Lyari	14	12	85
2.	Saddar	32	30	93
3.	Kaemari	10	8	80
4.	Jamshed	30	14	46
5.	Gulshan	35	20	57
6.	Shah Faisal	12	9	75
7.	Malir	20	12	60
8.	Landhi	16	20	125
9.	Korangi	24	21	87
10.	Bin Qasim	14	14	100
11.	Gulberg	22	17	77
12.	North Nazimabad	20	14	70
13.	Liaquat abad	18	18	100
14.	North Karachi	35	20	57
15.	Orangi	40	12	30
16.	Baldia	20	8	40
17.	Site	18	10	55
18.	Gadap	8	3	37
19.	Cantonment	22	22	100
20.	DHA	6	9	133
Total		416	293	

* Karachi Master Plan 2020 document. (Includes the quota for industries.)

Information acquired thru interviews with the KWSB Chief Engineers, Superintending Engineers and the Executive Engineers. Information has also been cross checked with the data on the full flow possible in the supply mains w.r.t the diameter of pipes.

- Calculations for the full flow (supply in mgd) in pipes for the respective diameter shows:

Pipe diameter	flows (mgd)
66"	54
54"	36
48"	28
36"	16
33"	15
24"	7

CITIZENS VOICE

Working with the media

Shehri-CBE highlights a recent initiative aimed at building capacity of the media to better understand and report on civic issues in Karachi - focus on the water and sanitation sector.

As part of the Water and Sanitation Program - South Asia (WSP-SA) program to develop and implement a communication strategy supporting the Citizens' Report Card of KWSB's water and sanitation services in Karachi, a local media consulting firm, Panos Pakistan, carried out a *Communication Plan* comprising a range of integrated activities to complement and disseminate the CRC survey. The idea was to engage with the media as an active partner in CRC reporting and dissemination rather than a passive recipient of information about CRC at press conferences and through press releases.

These activities included introductory meetings with media editors in order lay the foundations of planned media activities and to bring the media in the picture vis a vis the CRC survey. During these meetings to introduce the CRC, Panos also asked editors to identify the reporters and journalists from their organizations who were assigned the KWSB, local government and/or civic issues beats. The media activities were centered around engagement with this *frontline* of reporters covering water & sanitation issues in the city.

Subsequent media activities included a study mission to Bangalore for a select team of reporters identified through their interest in CRC (*established during introductory meetings*) to visit the birthplace of CRC and see how the media in Bangalore reports civic issues. This was followed by a series of concurrent activities such as the media fellowships which commissioned five Karachi journalists from the English and Urdu print media to research and write 10 in-depth reports on a range of water and sanitation



issues highlighted in the survey, and the FGDs preceding the survey. Panos worked closely with these journalists to refine their stories and provide inputs and guidance. The stories appeared over a month preceding the launch of the survey, providing a build-up to the launch of the survey findings.

In order to assist the media in understanding the development context of Karachi's water and sanitation issues, Panos organized a workshop *Profiling the Water & Sanitation Sector in Karachi* which featured presentations by key stakeholders, including civil society organizations, KWSB management, water experts and consumer rights organizations.

Documentation and dissemination of the CRC survey was envisioned through a series of interactive theater performances which were carried out in 8 of the 9 towns where the survey was conducted. A documentary film - *Water Wisdom - Hearing Citizens' Voices on Water and Sanitation in Karachi* - was also produced which documented the CRC process and would be used to disseminate this ground-breaking effort - a first for Pakistan - nationally, regionally and globally.

To further assist media in reporting water & sanitation issues in general and the CRC in particular, a toolkit was developed for dissemination on the day the CRC survey findings were made public in Karachi. Titled *Water Wisdom on Tap - a journalist's guide to the Citizens Report Card on water & sanitation services in Karachi*, the toolkit contained background information on CRCs, as well as other useful documents to help journalists in their coverage. A summary of the final report and a copy of the documentary was also included in the toolkit.

After the release of the survey findings, Panos held a session with the media to analyse the findings and identify possible leads contained in the data for further investigation and reporting.

These activities led to unprecedented coverage of the CRC by Karachi's print and electronic media. Moreover, a Super League of CRC reporters has been created through these activities, providing an excellent foundation for continuous engagement with the media on water & sanitation, as well as a *pressure group* to keep the demand for institutionalization of the CRC alive, well and growing. □



Kamal demands punishment for tree-cutters

Daily Times 21 September, 2008

City Nazim Mustafa Kamal has called for a 'Tree Act' to be drawn up and implemented immediately, stating that those involved in cutting trees should be severely reprimanded through sentences and fines.

Speaking at a seminar titled "Forestation, Aesthetic Plantation and Landscaping Study of Karachi", held at Civic Centre, Kamal expressed his concern over the lack of importance given to the city's vegetation.

CCTV network for city planned

The Daily Dawn 24 Sept., 2008

A network of closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras will be installed in Karachi on the pattern of other metropolitan cities of the world for security purposes. Funding for the project has already been provided to the Sindh police.

The proposal for the installation of the cameras was given to the Sindh government in the first half of this year by the former provincial police officer Sindh. Subsequently, the Sindh government sanctioned funding worth Rs. 1 billion in the present financial year to the Sindh Police.

CDGK, Chinese Co sign accord for solid waste management

Daily Times, 24 September, 2008

Sindh Chief Minister Qaim Ali Shah has directed officials concerned on Tuesday to completing process of regularization of over 800 villages throughout the province.

He issued these directives while presiding over a meeting at the Chief Minister House. According to official sources, the chief minister was briefed on the regularization process at the meeting and was informed that the Board of Revenue has almost completed the survey of the villages that will be regularized. In Karachi, the officials added, many villages are situated in Kemari, Gulshan-e-Iqbal and Gadap towns.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

SHEHRI invites the residents of the city to share with us, their concerns, on issues which are adversely affecting their neighbourhood's environment. Please write to us, preferably with a supporting photograph, so that efforts are made and solutions sought - Ed.

Illegal Conversion of Residential Plots into a Commercial Hospital

We, the residents of Block 17 Federal B Area, Karachi would like to bring to the kind notice of the relevant authorities the bare and open violation of Building Rules and thus sever grievances being faced by us due to illegal conversion of residential plots of our area into commercial plots by the management / owners of M/s Mamji Hospital.

The aforesaid M/s Mamji Hospital is constructed on Plot No. C-19, Block 17, Federal B Area Karachi. The said hospital, already comprised a basement, ground plus five upper floors, without any provision of car parking space within the hospital premises. All the vehicles of the said hospital, doctors and visitors are presently being parked in front of the boundary on main super highway round the clock; thereby blocking/disturbing the smooth flow of traffic on Main Shahra-e- Pakistan / Super Highway. It is also doubtful, whether the building plan of present Mamji hospital is approved in its present construction position. It is further to be noticed that the adjacent Plot No. C-18 has also been converted into a Physiotherapy Clinic and illegally amalgamated with Plot No. C-19, by the management of M/s Mamji Hospital.

This is not the end of the illegal and bare violation acts of the management of M/s Mamji Hospital. They recently purchased another residential Plot No. B-24, which is behind the hospital and opens clearly in a residential street. Now the management of M/s Mamji Hospital, has plans to merge the said plot (B-24) also into the hospital over night. The dividing wall between Plot No. C-19 and B-24 has already been illegally demolished to merge both the plots and to convert into a single premises of Mamji Hospital.

It has also come into our knowledge through reliable sources that the management of the hospital is negotiating to purchase more adjacent plots of residential cadre and will convert them illegally into commercial clinics etc and finally merge them into single premises of their hospital. The management of Mamji hospital has also purchased plot No. B-21 and have done sale agreement with Plot No. B-23. They have also contacted and have given their offers to purchase Plot No. B-22 and B-25.

This shows enough evidence that hospital management are planning to convert a large residential area into a huge medical complex by unfair means, a clear violation of KBCA/ building rules and regulation & policies of CDGK, Environment Protection Agency and other relevant public department. Thus they intend to make the life of the nearby residents entirely miserable.

If the Management of Mamji Hospital succeeds in their above mentioned illegal motives then the entire nearby locality will be the real sufferers and their life will badly be affected. A hospital very close to a densely populated residential area itself poses a real danger to the environment and inhabitants especially for children.

In the light of above narrated detailed facts, it is therefore requested that immediate necessary action be taken to stop the illegal, and unauthorized conversion/amalgamation of residential plots into commercial by the management of M/s Mamji Hospital. □

URBAN UTILITIES

Water woes

Zofeen T. Ebrahim takes a first hand look at the practice of illegal consumption of water in Karachi - the reasons, the consequences and the human story behind the issues.

For the uninitiated, it's surreal: men and boys stepping out of their homes into the unpaved and narrow alleys of the Korangi Dhari slum in the wee hours before dawn, armed with rolls of colourful plastic tubing and heavy electric pumps.

For over 15 years the only way that squatter families living in the slum settlements of Nursery Town, Francis Town and Joseph Gill Town, that fall within the Korangi Industrial and Trading Estates (KITE), have been able to access water for their daily needs is by illegally tapping it from the mains.

Over 60 percent of this port city's population of 16 million lives in informal settlements, according to urban planner Arif Hasan. In the absence of proper infrastructure, many communities have improvised sewerage, drainage and water supply systems.

In *Understanding Karachi*, a book written by Hasan, 90 percent of these homes "have linked themselves illegally to government supply systems".

But Shahid Gill, a resident refutes this allegation. Each house paid Rs 2,500 (36 US dollars) to the union council (smallest administrative unit), so how can you call it illegal? says the 28-year-old who works as an office boy with a non-governmental organi-



sation (NGO).

additional 123 mgd, she says.

Illegal connection points can be seen as small rubber protrusions and the pipes are readily visible alongside storm water drains that run parallel to the main lines. It is from these connections that water is siphoned off into homes using suction pumps running on illegally tapped electricity.

This informal infrastructure is not officially recognised and, therefore, cannot be integrated into plans for sewerage and water supply systems being planned by the government.

Karachi, with a population of 16 million with a minimum requirement of 20 gallons per day per person, needs at least 320 million gallons per day (mgd), says

Perween Rehman, director of the Orangi Pilot Project's research and technical wing. The industries need an

There are two main sources of water supply to Karachi -- from the Indus river, which supplies 645 mgd, and the Hub dam that supplies about 50 mgd. But because the latter is rainfed, the supply fluctuates between 30-75 mgd.

Among other factors, about 15 percent of the water is wasted due to technical leakages and another 41 percent (or 272mgd) is siphoned off and supplied through tankers. And this is a very conservative estimate,' says Rehman, talking with IPS.

As a result, the 18 administrative divisions of Karachi that are supposed to get a total of 417.65 mgd from the government-owned Karachi Water and Sewerage Board (KW&SB), receive only 293 mgd. And then the distribution is inequitable with the affluent areas such as the Cantonment receiving as much as 100 percent or even 133 percent of their requirement (in the Defence Housing Authority), while others must make do with as little as 30 to 57 percent.

Among other recommendations, like independent power supply at the pumping stations to stem the interrup-

The more enterprising among the squatter residents have taken advantage of the erratic supplies and entered the water supply business. They have several suction pumps and large storage tanks. When the water does not come in the main-line, we buy water from these people, says Gill.



tions, Rehman says authorities should focus on metering to assist in ensuring all areas get their required quota of water.

According to the KW&SB sources, there are 1.17 million water consumers (those that get water from the board directly) in Karachi, of which 758,500 are on the billing rolls while only 163,000 pay regularly. "No action is taken against the defaulters and the KW&SB runs at a perpetual loss, states the 2002 edition of the same book by Hasan. The situation has not changed at all, says Rehman.

While the slum dwellers of Korangi also do not pay for their electricity and water, they must work hard at tapping the utilities.

The first thing to do is to attach the electric wire with the help of a kunda (a metal hook) slung over a power cable, explains Asif Ayub, 17, a movie maker. It's not an easy task in the thick of the night, especially for those who are still grog-

gy from sleep. Once the connections are set the water is pumped into storage tanks inside the homes.

With such a jumble of pipes and cables safety is a concern. Getting electric shocks is quite common, says 28-year-old Shakil Gill, whose chore it was for six years. But now, following his marriage, he has been excused and his younger brother has taken over.

It's usually the youngest male in the family, but one who is old enough to be able to carry the heavy gear, and fix the wiring, interjects Kashif Naeem, 18, who has been on duty since he was 14. The idea is that he's someone who does not have to get up early to go for work, said Naeem who dropped out of school after grade six.

There is no letup for 16-year-old Shahin

Waris who is in the middle of his matriculation board exam. *I've been doing it for the past three years. Asked if someone else can take over so he can prepare for his exam as well as take enough rest, he explains: I have*

an older brother, but he is in his second year of medicine so...

In homes where no men are available for water duty, the women step in.

Water supply is available from four to six in the morning every alternate day in the mainline in the Nursery Town area. *It used to be from two to six and with the reduced supply it's like war here. Every few days you will see tempers erupting, says Lawrence, a municipal sanitation worker, who has to report for duty at eight.*

And then there are days when the mains run dry. Or there is no electricity supply.

It takes us almost an hour set up the equipment. Can you imagine the frustration? And the extra burden we incur buying water for the day? says Jamaluddin, wrapping up and fighting back his anger.

The more enterprising among the squatter residents have taken advantage of the erratic supplies and entered the water supply business. They have several suction pumps and large storage tanks. *When the water does not come in the mainline, we buy water from these people, says Gill.*

Squatters can also buy water from tankers at Rs 250 (3.73 dollars) per 1,000 gallons, though this is brackish and unfit for drinking, or from individual water suppliers roaming about the lanes with water loaded on donkey carts at Rs 100 (1.49 dollars) per 25 gallons. □

*Courtesy: IPS
Zofeen T. Ebrahim is a freelance journalist specializing in Urban Development Issues*



ASK SHEHRI

Most residents when faced with any civic problem do not know which person or organization to contact in order to solve their problem. In this column we invite the readers to share their worries with us and seek our help, which is always forthcoming - Ed.

Q. What is the staff strength of the KW&SB?

Ali Jafri, Sharafabad, Karachi

A. 13,500

Q. What is the total road network of Karachi?

Shazia Saleem, D.H.A, Karachi

A. 8000 km

Q. What is the tenure of the elected City Government representatives?

A. Three (3) Years

Aslam Lakho, Qasimabad, Hyderabad

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be an
environmental activist
work with an
experienced team**

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CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Putting CSR in the right perspective

Shehri-CBE in coordination with the consulting firm Sustainable Initiatives organized a training workshop for civil society groups (May 27, 2008, Goethe Institut, Karachi) on the topic of Corporate Social Responsibility within the backdrop of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises

Participants included the civil society groups and NGOs, relevant academia and some select media groups and experts.

Presentations in the morning session focused on corporate social responsibility (CSR) and the afternoon session dealt specifically with the *OECD Guidelines*.

Khadeeja Balkhi, a Sustainability Consultant, gave a background of *Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)* and outlined some tools for creating sustainable linkages and partnerships to achieve sustainability. She said that sustainability requires a balancing of the opportunities, environmental, social and economic costs and implications of action within the context of the needs of current, and future, populations as well as the limits of the ecological system.

She highlighted the *Triple Bottom-Line (people, planet, profits)* concept in CSR, stating that CSR takes into account the economic, social and environmental impact of a company's operations and activities. She defined the social bottom line and the financial bottom line as two ends of a spectrum. Next, she explained the importance of creating profitable partnerships between the corporate sector and non-profits. She said that if corporations and non-profits seek each other only as monetary partners, both parties will be short-changed in the long term, and the partnerships full potential will remain unrealized. She stated that more effective roles for non-profits can be:

and

Khadeeja outlined the business case matrix to explain the concept of link-

ages and partnerships. The matrix consists of three main areas: governance and engagement, environmental focus and socio-economist development.

Samir Ahmed, a Trainer on Environment, Health and Safety, gave an overview of environmental legislation in Pakistan and said that weaknesses exist in the enforcement and implementation of environmental legislations. Article 9 of the constitution defines the right to life as a fundamental right in these words and the Supreme Court of Pakistan in its judgment in the case against WAPDA (1994) declared that the right to a clean environment is part of the fundamental constitutional right to life, he said.

He explained that the *PEPA (Pakistan Environmental Protection Act) 1997* is the basic legislative tool empowering the government to frame regulations. Next, *Ahmed* gave an overview of the *National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQS)* which were first promulgated in 1993 and were amended in 1995 and 2000. He also talked about legislation relating to hazardous waste and wildlife management in Pakistan.

Farhan Anwar, Executive Director, Sustainable Initiatives, delivered two presentations introducing the *OECD Guidelines* and the *OECD Watch* and detailing the complaint procedure established for invoking the Guidelines.

Anwar discussed the historical background for the preparation of the *OECD Guidelines*. A basic introduction to the Guidelines - themes, content and scope was made and the

structure and procedures for the implementation of the Guidelines that included the oversight role of the *OECD Investment Committee*, the implementing role of the *National Contact Points (NCPs)* and the business, trade and civil society stakeholders was explained, in addition, the strengths and weaknesses of the Guidelines and the associated implementation procedures were also highlighted.

He also explained how to construct complaints and highlighted issues NGO's should consider before submitting a complaint, how the complaint process has been typically handled by the NCPs and what roadblocks NGO's should encounter. It was stressed that there can be benefits to filing a complaint provided the NGO's enter into the process properly prepared with a clear view of what outcome they hope to achieve. Some important issues highlighted for consideration when filing a complaint are given as follows:

- * Clear determination of the goals of the complaint.
- * Clear explanation of interest in the case.
- * Collection of viable evidence that shows that the Guidelines are being violated.
- * Determining the timing for the complaint.
- * Structuring of the complaint.
- * Understanding of the NCP checklist.
- * The post-complaint procedure.

Later, the participants of the workshop were asked to prepare a case for invoking the Guidelines based on a hypothetical case study. *Seema Fazilat*, a Consultant at Sustainable Initiatives,

facilitated the group activity session. The answers to the case study were given by the participants and the questions were framed by the Sustainable Initiatives team.

Fasihul Karim Siddiqi, Director CSR of Hinopak Motors Limited, gave an overview of the company and its various initiatives in the field of human resource development, community development, which reflect the company's strong commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

One of the major sustainable initiatives that Hinopak has embarked on is adoption of the SITE Model school through a partnership with the FPCCI and the CDGK to improve the school's facilities, including community healthcare centre and the standard of education. Hinopak plans to provide support for development, renovation and maintenance of the school infrastructure and environment, establish co-curricular activities, arranged exposure visits for students and teachers and provide technical training and internships for students.

Hamid Maker, Founder of Helpline Trust said that Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is a growing need in today's complex business environment. Prudent corporations have realized their role is not only to make profits for their companies and shareholders, but also to be recognized as socially responsible enterprises. CSR is basically an obligation, working for the benefit of social good, as well for profit maximization. As such, the concept of social corporate responsibility is assuming new dimensions. The general perception of a corporate organization is that it is out just to make money, without giving due consideration to the consumers. □

