

Brief Proposal

Improvement of Quality Education in the Government Schools of Bin Qasim Town, Karachi

Submitted By:
Rotary Club, Gulshan-e-Hadeed, Karachi, Pakistan

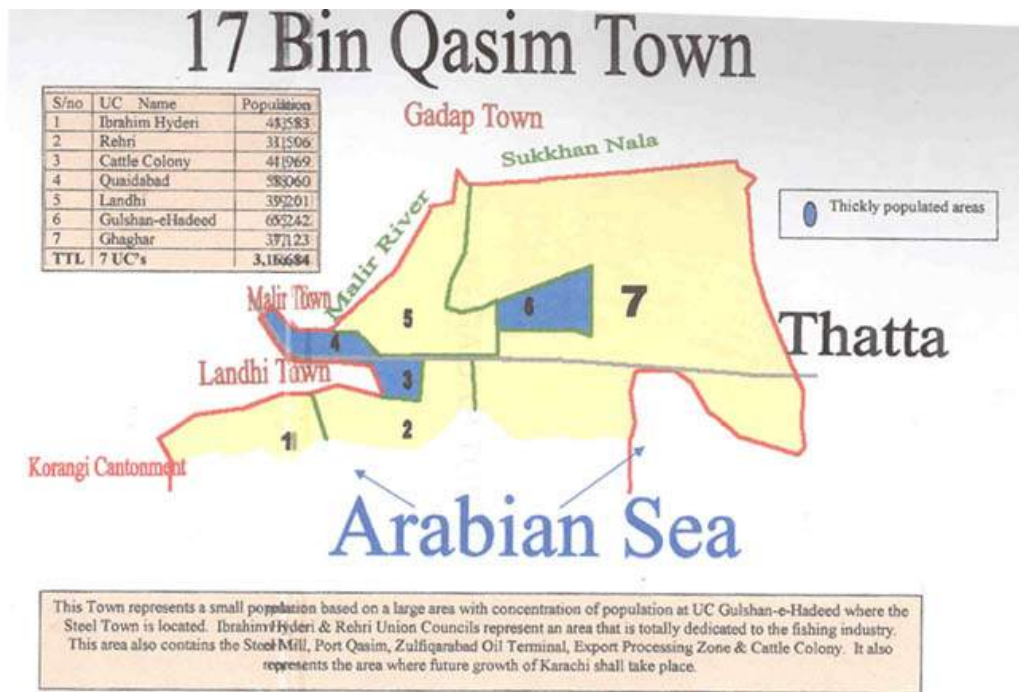
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Introduction:

Rotary is a worldwide organization of more than 1.2 million business, professional, and community leaders. Members of Rotary clubs, known as Rotarians, provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

There are 33,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds. As signified by the motto Service, Above Self, Rotary's main objective is service — in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world. (Source: <http://www.rotary.org>).

Rotary's Gulshan-e-Hadeed Club is a recently established member of Rotary's District 3270 (Pakistan and Afghanistan). Gulshan-e-Hadeed is a well built area (union council) of Bin Qasim Town of City District Government Karachi, Sindh, Pakistan.



There are several ethnic groups living in Gulshan-e-Hadeed including Sindhis constituting majority, Punjabis, Muhajir, Kashmiris, Seraikis, Pakhtuns, Balochis, Memons, Bohras and Ismailis. It is located on the edge of the National Highway. Gulshan-e-Hadeed is at 30 minutes drive from Karachi's Jinnah International Airport. The neighbor areas of Gulshan-e-Hadeed include Steel Town, Pipri and Shah Latif Town. Gulshan-e-Hadeed is divided in two phases (Phase-I and Phase-II). (Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulshan-e-Hadeed>)

Background:

Bin Qasim Town is a town located in the southeastern part of Karachi along the Arabian Sea and the Indus River delta. The local government system was introduced in the year 2001, effect of the new system on in Karachi was the dissolution of the former Karachi Division and the merger of its five districts to form a new Karachi City-District with eighteen autonomous constituent towns including Bin Qasim Town.

Bin Qasim Town is considered as a Rural Area of Karachi. The situation of education in the Bin Qasim Town is alarming. The total population of the Bin Qasim Town during 1998 census was 316,684, which is estimated to be almost double in 2008. However according to the Ministry of Education only 55,000 children are enrolled in primary, middle, high and higher secondary schools of Bin Qasim Town.

Schools		Primary	Middle	High	Higher Secondary
No. of Schools	Boys	147	24	17	1
	Girls	99	47	15	2
	Mix	401	14	7	3
	Total	647	85	39	6
Enrollment	Boys	23604	3879	1836	82
	Girls	20558	4097	1675	76
	Total	44162	7976	3511	158
No. of Teachers	Male	1208	150	198	72
	Female	567	138	140	47
	Total	1775	288	338	119

Table: Education Statistics of Bin Qasim Town (Source: SEMIS 2003-2004)

Besides the lack of access, the issue of quality education also persists in majority of the government schools. There is lack of proper and regular in-service training mechanism for the teachers of government schools. In result most of the teachers follow the traditional teaching methods of rote learning. L.D. Hayes (1987) in his article *The Crisis of Education in Pakistan* illustrates "In majority of Pakistani schools the rote learning is a common practice and teachers mainly rely on lecture methods. There is dearth of children's participation in teaching and learning activities". Hence there is rigorous need for improving the quality of education in government schools through a comprehensive need based support program.

This proposal presents the suggested activities Rotary's Gulshan-e-Hadeed club would like to initiate in order to improve the quality of education in schools of Bin Qasim Town.

Phase 1: Needs Assessment

In order to assess the existing situation of schools a needs assessment is an important activity to know the level and nature of support needed. In this regard various activities such as meetings with the stakeholders and school survey will be carried out by the members with the support of the government education department. Besides this meetings with educationist and intellectuals will also be conducted to get their critical views and suggestions for the improvement of education at Bin Qasim Town.

1. Meetings with Education Officers:

Meetings will be conducted with various senior education officers of Bin Qasim Town including ADO (Education). The introduction of Rotary and the purpose of the project will be shared with the officers of education department. Their suggestions will also be taken for the improvement of education system in the schools of Bin Qasim Town.

2. Meetings with Educationists, Intellectuals and Community Organizations:

Meetings with some of the well known educationists, intellectuals and existing community organizations (CBOs or NGOs) will also be conducted to get the critical views and their in-depth analysis of the current situation of education and to get their suggestions for the improvement of education, especially in government schools of Bin Qasim Town.

3. Baseline Survey

A baseline survey will be carried by a team of enumerators in order to know the existing situation of schools and their needs. The forms will be sent to all schools of Bin Qasim Town through ADO (E). Survey will consist of the details of demographics and questionnaire for teachers. The results of the survey will be compiled and shared with the government ADO-E and the activities will be planned according to the needs of the schools / teachers.

Phase 2: Implementation of Activities

4. Teachers' Training

Teachers training is said to be the most important activity for the school improvement. Teachers' continuous professional development helps them to perform better for the quality education in their respective school. Teachers not only improve their content knowledge but also learn new and innovative methods of teaching. Training sensitizes

teachers to become the role model for their children and helps to develop enthusiasm and eagerness to adopt new and innovative teaching techniques.

The training for the teachers of Bin Qasim Town should be a regular activity and should be done at various levels as suggested below.

Level	Details	Days per session	Total days
1	Introductory Training for Early Childhood Education (ECE) / Katchi Class Teachers	2	2
	Introductory Training for Primary School Teachers	2	2
	Introductory Training for Elementary / Secondary School Teachers	2	2
2	Training on Effective Teaching Methodologies (3 sessions for all three groups)	2	6
3	Training on Content Knowledge of Maths and Science (2 sessions for primary and elementary groups)	2	4
4	Training on Languages (Sindhi and English) (3 sessions)	2	6
5	Training on Social Studies, Health Education and Environmental Education (3 sessions)	2	6
6	Training on Assessment and Monitoring (For Supervisors and Head teachers)	2	2
Total Number of Days		24	30

Note: The average class size should be 25-30 participants per class.

5. Awareness Raising and Community Mobilization:

Once teachers are trained and they start teaching in an improved way through the various innovative methods of teaching for quality education improvement, the awareness raising and community mobilization activities will be introduced for the active participation of local communities and parents to support children for better education. The area of Bin Qasim Town is mainly occupied by people from low socio-economic backgrounds. The major reason for low enrollment in schools and low literacy rate in the area is due to poverty and illiteracy. The local community and parents can be sensitizing towards importance of education through various activities suggested below;

- **Strengthening the SMCs**

School Management Committees (SMCs) are formed at all government schools through an official notification. The purpose of forming these SMCs is to involve local communities and parents for the betterment of education. But unfortunately most of the SMCs are not active and they only become active when they receive some funds. The performance of SMCs can be improved through their training. Selected SMC members will be trained on how to effectively run SMC and what are their roles and responsibilities as the members of SMC.

- **Seminars**

Seminars will be arranged to mobilize parents and community members towards the importance of education and to get their cooperation to increase the enrollment in the schools. Government officials and educationist and intellectuals will be invited in these seminars also as guest speakers.

Budget:

All the above suggested activities need financial and human resources. A tentative budget is given below for the smooth implementation for the planned activities is given below;

S.No.	Activity	Amount
1	Meetings with Government Officers	5000 (lump sum)
2	Meetings with Educationists, Intellectuals, CBOs / NGOs	10,000 (lump sum)
3	Community Meetings	20,000 (lump sum)
4	Photocopy of Forms for Baseline (1000 forms X 5 pages each)	5000
5	Trainings (Total 30 days, spread over a period of six months) Cost including following @ Rs. 30,000 per day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Facilitation charges (2-3 Trainers) ▪ Transportation of Trainers and participants ▪ Food and Refreshment ▪ Stationary 	900,000 (lump sum)
6	SMC Training (1 day)	30,000 (lump sum)
7	Seminars (2 seminars)	30,000
Total (Rupees one million only)		Rs. 1,000,000

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