

Chapter 8 | SOCIAL WELFARE

Social welfare envisages providing an enabling environment with tangible opportunities through policies, plans, programmes, action plans, guidelines and projects for the promotion of social justice, wellbeing and equity in the country by addressing the needs of downtrodden, marginalized, needy and vulnerable segments of the society providing institutional care, rehabilitation of the needy and the vulnerable, protection of human rights and inculcating the entrepreneurship skills are the key tools achieving the social welfare targets in line with constitutional obligations, national priorities, local needs and international commitments.

The social welfare challenges include inadequate coverage and funding for social welfare services, the scattered community development initiatives, lack of voluntary work, social case work and school social work, lack of community mobilization, weak social welfare departments, lack of research on emerging issues and threat to social fabric including social & society's values. The Annual Plan focuses on well-coordinated national planning to address these challenges through public sector development programmes, effective private sector participation and review of existing social welfare policies.

Performance review 2016-17

In Federal PSDP 2016-17, an amount of Rs20 million was allocated and Rs13.6 million utilized for "Helpline for legal advice on violations of human rights" and Rs150 million were allocated for "National Action Plan on Human Rights" and Rs10 million utilized. A special education project "Up gradation of National Special Education Centre for Hearing Impaired Children from Higher Secondary to Graduation Level, Islamabad was initiated with an approved cost of Rs44.4 million. An amount of Rs14.36 million was allocated to it, during the review period and Rs11.6 million utilized. The establishment of resource unit of Autistic Children at Special Education Centre for mentally Retarded Children at H-8/4, Islamabad costing Rs54.35 million was allocated Rs20 million and Rs14.20 million were utilized.

The promotion of innovative ideas through business plans competitions leading to the solution of social issues/ problems, Ministry of Planning, Development & Reform has established a Centre for Social Entrepreneurship at a cost of Rs178.43 million. Out of this, Rs20 million were allocated and Rs4 million utilized. The project is unique in nature for addressing social issues through innovative business plans competitions. The project has developed a network with stakeholders and effectively contributed in different entrepreneurship events/activities.

Outlook 2017-18

The Plan aims at addressing social welfare issues, meeting needs and creating awareness about the constitutional, legal and international obligations, establishing coordinated & integrated mechanisms to achieve social welfare goals with the objective to

benefit to disadvantaged segments of population. The expansion, coverage and strengthening of the social welfare services by mitigating and managing the socio-economic risk and vulnerability will continue. The federal and provincial development priorities would focus at mainstreaming the vulnerable including women, children, youth, persons with disabilities, transgender, patients and senior citizens etc. The coverage will be extended by establishing drug addicts centres, detoxification and rehabilitation centres, Dar-ul-Aman, industrial homes, incubation centres, etc.

The "Centre for Social Entrepreneurship" established at the Ministry of Planning, Development & Reform would provide opportunities to the youth, women and students having innovative ideas for solution of the social problems. The centre will organize the business plan competitions with support of the universities/ public & private institutions and other stakeholders for solution of the social problems pertaining to education, health, social welfare, gender & women empowerment etc.

Programmes

The Plan envisages following programmes:

- Continue services under "Establishment of Helpline for Legal Advice on Human Rights" costing Rs59.09 million with allocation of Rs25 million.
- Establishment of National Institute of Human Rights at Islamabad costing Rs58.70 million with allocation of Rs27 million.
- Acquisition of land and construction of building for National Institute of Human Rights, Islamabad costing Rs250 million and allocation of Rs112 million.
- Implementation on Action Plan on Human Rights in Pakistan costing Rs52.5 million with allocation of Rs12 million.
- Institutional strengthening of Ministry of Human Rights costing Rs57 million with allocation of Rs30 million.
- Upgradation of National Special Education Centre for hearing impaired children from higher secondary to graduation level at Islamabad costing Rs44.64 million with allocation of Rs25.6 million.
- Establishment of resource unit for Autistic children at National Education Centre for Special Children, Islamabad costing Rs54 million with allocation of Rs20 million.
- Establishment of Centre for Social Entrepreneurship at Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform Islamabad costing Rs178.43 million with allocation of Rs40 million.
- Establishment of Orthopaedic Workshop at National Special Education Center for Physically Handicapped Children, G-8/4 Islamabad, costing Rs20.26 with PSDP allocation of Rs20.26.
- Construction of Working Women Hostel, G-6/2 and G-7/3, Islamabad, costing Rs261.29 million with allocation of Rs100 million.