

# Human Security Report

Gap Analysis on Social Services and Citizen's Demands

District Khanewal



**SOUTH ASIA PARTNERSHIP-PAKISTAN**

Peace My Right



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## Executive Summary

The present report documents human security situation in district Khanewal. Divided into three chapters, it introduces the 'Citizens First' project for human security in the region. After necessary profiling of the district, it establishes its needs and the primacy of linking provision of basic social services by the state with sense of public safety. Its theoretical framework is informed by a vulnerability-security continuum approach to protect citizens' rights in Khanewal.

The report is result of a consultative process done with representatives of multi-sector stakeholders from civil society, government and relevant private actors.

Analysis and findings of the fieldwork have been provided first by identifying patterns of public sector planning and spending and through summarizing key results in terms of stressors/gaps prevalent in different sectors, status of public control and access over sectoral assets and the institutional factors that define major gaps in various basic services. Additionally, key areas for advocacy and collaborative actions have been mapped. Then, progress made in different sectors of district Khanewal has been thoroughly analyzed in this chapter. It has been emphasized that quality and affordable education for poorer sections of the society has to be ensured; health resources, infrastructure, financing, access and disease patterns be considered not just as a technical but integrated issue linked with poverty and vulnerability of the people; clean drinking water is yet another area where greater coverage has to be provided; in terms of physical infrastructure and roads, inclusive and equity-based approaches should be applied in design and implementation; there is a need to include district Khanewal into the government social security/ protection programs focusing on informal workers, peasants and women/girls; while issues like mistrust over policing and legal system and use of customary practices in law have also been probed. The sectarian and militancy challenges to the district is an additional area of exploring peace and security issues in district Khanewal along with farmers' demands for entitlements of their cultivated lands.

The report recommends four key programmatic interventions and nineteen relevant actions in district Khanewal: (i) creating hub for human security, (ii) improving the quality of basic services, (iii) participation in public planning and budgetary process, and (iv) program development. It is hoped this human security report will not only be a useful tool to articulate situation and responses for mitigating human security issues in Khanewal, but will also guide practitioners elsewhere to adopt its theoretical, methodological and practical templates.

## 1. Introduction

### Citizens First: Improving Human Security

South Asia Partnership, Pakistan (SAP-PK) is implementing a program, entitled, “Citizens First: Improving Human Security”. This program focuses upon both communities and local governments in twelve districts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province, five in Sindh and eight in Punjab, including Khanewal.

Funded by the Oxfam Novib, the program seeks that the government responds to the human security needs of civilians in the focused districts. At its identification phase, it was found out that a vicious cycle of poverty and weak governance were two key drivers of conflict and undermining human security. Hence, the need to articulate a comprehensive model of human security i.e. rule of law, responsive government, and peace dividends.

It was also felt to actualize the human security model at the district level and a toolkit was developed through stakeholder brainstorming.

From theoretical concepts to practical issues at the district level, this human security model moves beyond promising citizens ‘freedom from fear’ to also attaining ‘freedom from want’. It is to encourage pro-people planning and public policies and provision of basic social services through aggregating civil society demands at the local level and to stimulate dialogue, understanding, and engagement between the civil society and different levels of government. The purpose is that the governments become responsive to human security needs of the citizens.

It is expected that such moving from physical to human security is likely to build trust between citizens and the state in as tangible a way as the palpability of its demands for basic social services at the local level and not just advocating a state-level traditional security paradigm, which can be abstract and provocative due to its mega-narrative at times.

This relatively new conception of (human) security responds to needs of the citizens i.e., social services, basic human rights, peace & tolerance and gender.

Within its framework of the human security, the Citizens First project supports the local civil society organizations to address root causes of insecurity and conflict, by engaging





in poverty alleviation, and improving the responsiveness of government to citizens' demands.

There are quantified and specified targets set for the focused districts, but the broader outcomes of the project by the year 2016 are as following:

Targeted number of people are educated and mobilized for social services, basic human rights, peace and tolerance, gender equality and basic social services.

Targeted CBOs and Community groups are able to engage with local authorities on public demands for basic social services.

Targeted CSOs are facilitated/supported to lobby and campaign for pro-people planning and budget allocation by putting forward alternative recommendations.

Alliances of CSOs / CBOs all over Pakistan are campaigning and lobbying with federal / national assemblies and related bureaucracy in Pakistan for responding positively towards international commitments and obligations for rights of citizens.

Targeted Population of the districts has increased access to social services.



## Profile of District Khanewal

District Khanewal is situated almost at the center of Pakistan, on the main routes of railways and the Grand Trunk (GT) Road, north-south, between Peshawar and Karachi cities. Its neighboring districts are Jhang and Toba Tek Singh on the north; Vehari on the south; Sahiwal (east) and Multan (west). It was upgraded to the status of a district in 1985.

People rely on agriculture for livelihoods and no important industry is available in district Khanewal spread over an area of 4,349 square kilometers, its total population is 2,76,34,85 at an annual growth rate of 2.45% and population density is 850 persons per sq. km. Women are 2% more than men in the district. In terms of age cohorts, there visible youth bulge persists hers as other parts of the country.



Ranked 42nd in education score (primary) in Pakistan (2014), there are 1317 government schools in district Khanewal. Overall literacy ration is 56% in 10+ years. Mean household size is 6.6; while 3.6 persons live per room. Number of public health facilities amounts to 1844 with a bed strength of 529. Properly treated water is used only by 1.1% people. Infant Mortality Rate is 92 per 1,000 births. Use of contraceptives (any method) is 24%. Moreover, Khanewal has a total metaled road-length of 2203.03 kilometers. According to SPDC (2011), district Khanewal is ranked 58<sup>th</sup> in overall indices of multiple deprivations at the national level; while within the province it stands at 26<sup>th</sup> rank indicating a high level of deprivation in the district.

Linguistically, majority of the Khanewal population speak Punjabi (63%), followed by Seraiki speaking population of 26%. A sizeable number of migrant and settler communities, originally from East Punjab (India), now are permanent inhabitants of the district.

By customs, people tend to settle their scores outside the police and formal justice system. Targeted Shia-Sunni tension can also be observed; with a pool of youth trained in military skills.

### **Why the Human Security Report, District Khanewal?**

Pakistan is confronted with a variety of on-going conflicts coupled with challenges of poverty and unequal distribution of wealth. In contrast, the state's ability to counter violent, confrontational and criminal practices has receded and it is apparently compromising on delivery of basic social services. The access and quality of education, health and other social services are showing little progress as against our development targets in the wake of an increased population with youth bulge in numbers. This situation is more likely to exacerbate conflicts and take the state into a governance crisis, where it is gradually been unable to effectively negotiate resource distribution and transform conflicts among diverse stakeholders of the system.

The current situation in Pakistan calls for an in-depth analysis and detailed assessment of factors underlying human security. There is an urgent need to raise awareness on human security issues at policy level, and to build an institutional framework that will allow multi-sectoral reforms.

The human security report of district Khanewal promises a comprehensive fact-based analysis of the government's institutional capacity and policy commitment to tackle human security at the micro-level, the district. The facts and figures captured in the



report will help the government to develop a framework for strengthening its institutions to effectively deal with and formulation of a policy towards human security. Additionally, there has been an effort made to take the human security debate to the district level; so as to make the desired policy relevant with the grassroots needs

As an output of the project, entitled, “Citizens First: Improving Human Security”, the present report documents the situation of district Khanewal, Punjab province. By analyzing social services spending in the public sector i.e. education, health, sanitation and safe drinking water, youth development, social protection and local practices and conflicts, it identifies gaps both in macro-level public planning and district-level performance of social services delivery. Developed through a consultative process based (workshop and in-depth interviews), the report will help in awareness raising and mobilization of common masses to raise their voices for fulfilling their rights and to make state accountable for this at the immediate and tangible level, the district, in this case. It also helps policy makers to efficiently plan and allocate financial and human resources at the micro-level; so that they can develop and implement policies and programs which ensure human security in the country

Furthermore, this report will be used to promote public dialogues on different policies related to human rights, human development and human security from a district-level perspective.

It is additionally envisaged that the report's finding will guide future advocacy and program development work of the local civil society to not only improve human security situation in district Khanewal, but also create models to be replicated elsewhere in the country.



## Aims and Objectives

The broad aim of the “Human Security Report, District Khanewal” is to develop a detailed understanding of the situation of human security in the district and thereby to establish a knowledge base for appropriate planning, advocacy points and priority actions of the local civil society organizations. .

## The objectives of the report are:

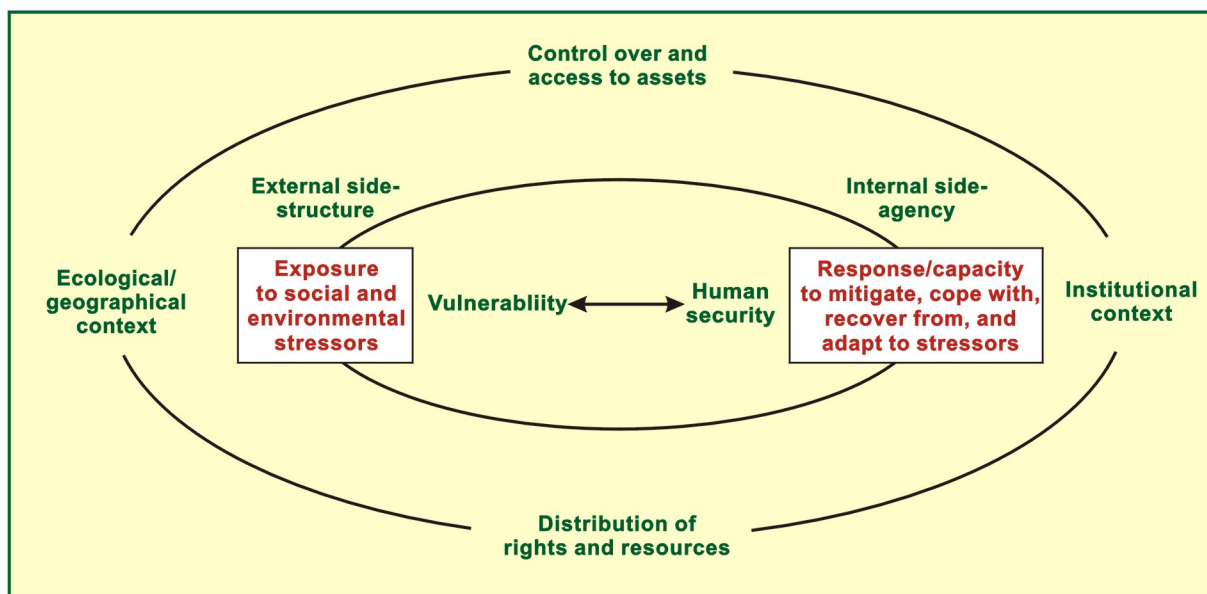
To develop common understanding on Human Security by relating it to basic social services and human development in district Khanewal.

To consolidate and document the data and public perception in the district regarding basic social services and human development.

To develop a resource/ reference material for advocacy groups and other research institutions.

To provide actual ground situation, supported by data, to concerned authorities on issues related to social services and human development.

## Framework and Theoretical Approach



A Vulnerability-Security Continuum approach<sup>1</sup> was used in order to explore situation of human security for citizens in district Khanewal. This analysis not only takes into

<sup>1</sup> Mike Brklacich, May Chazan, and Hans-Georg Bohle. “Human Security, Vulnerability, and Global Environmental Change”, Chapter 2 in Richard A. Matthew, Jon Barnett, Bryan McDonald, and Karen L. O'Brien (eds), “Global Environmental Change and Human Security”, MIT Press, MA: 2010.



account internal and external structures and stressors of the individual system of human security but also considers the contextual characteristics that appear to shape vulnerability broadly clustered into four interrelated groups: (1) control of and access to assets; (2) institutional factors; (3) distribution of rights and resources; (4) ecological and geographical factors. Due to dynamic nature of such analysis design, the understanding of human security situation can lead to identification of gaps in knowledge and delivery of basic social services in the public sector within a larger context of dynamic stressors and provide future advocacy points and programmatic interventions for both the government and civil society.

## **Methodology**

The report is based on both quantitative/empirical and qualitative data. Empirical data was gathered through official budgets, annual development plans and allocation/actual use of budgets in district Khanewal in the sectors related to human security: Primary education, primary health care and hygiene, clean drinking water, sanitation, policing, physical infrastructure and social security/protection.

Through this, factual information about the public sector spending on above sectors was made available. This data was helpful in assessing sectoral spending on non-discriminatory expenditure on the ordinary citizens. Allocation/use of spending on social protection programs was another area of the report.

The qualitative and interpretative part of the report was mainly extracted through the consultative process and in-depth-interviews to determine:

- a) Dynamics of human security issues as everyday experiences of citizens. For this, situation and nature of local conflicts and customary practices were also discussed during the consultative process and in-depth-interviews.
- b) Practical relevance, participatory nature and access to information regarding public spending on above sectors.

Sample size of the consultative process and in-depth-interviews was defined on the basis of stratifying primary and sectoral stakeholders of basic social services in district Khanewal. The aim was to ensure that all relevant sectoral groups of stakeholders are adequately represented. This was also necessitated due to advocacy and lobbying nature of the project framework and to set an agenda for subsequent advocacy actions. For this study, the most important stakeholders were civil society activists including representatives of peasants, laborers, women, minorities and youth, education and health practitioners, political activists, media persons and government officials.

The qualitative and interpretative data of the report has helped gauging how citizens experience the human security issues in district Khanewal. It provided us nuanced understanding of issues by the citizens themselves. This was to ensure that human security issues at the micro-level were better understood and could provide us with policy and advocacy points that will work on the ground.

The following tools were applied to collect the report data:

- a. Two focus groups, lumped into a consultative workshop, explored the identified social service areas and issues in more depth and provided information based questions framed by the Human Security Toolkit. A total of twenty-seven (27) workshop participants, comprising of eight (8) women, included: representatives of CSOs/NGOs, peasants, teachers, doctors/ health practitioners, laborers, women, minorities, media, youth, and political activists and government officials.
- b. Key informant in-depth interviews were conducted in order to provide further investigation. A total of ten (10) interviews were conducted with respondents from above categories. They also included four (4) women respondents.

**Data collection sample is illustrated as below:**

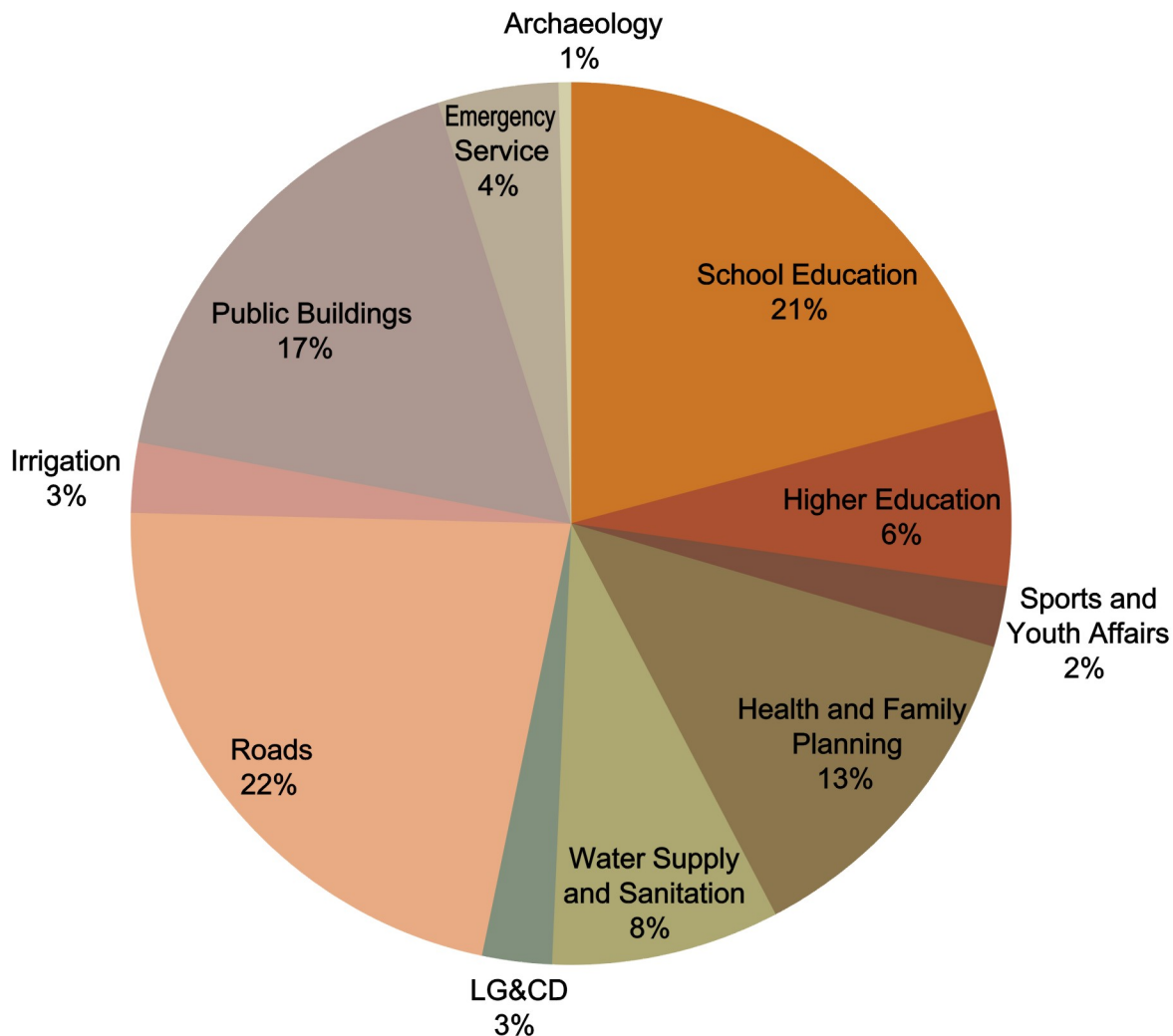
<b>Consultative Workshop on Human Security in Khanewal District, 11 September, 2014</b>			
<b>Category</b>	<b># of respondents</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b># of respondents</b>
CSOs/NGOs	6 (2 female)	Doctor	1
Representatives of peasants	2	Teachers	3 (1 female)
Representatives of laborers	2	Political activists	3
Representatives of women	2 (female)	Media persons	2
Representatives of Minorities	2 (1 female)	Govt. officials	2 (1 female)
Representatives of youth	2 (1 female)		
<b>Total Respondents</b>			<b>27 (8 females)</b>
<b>In-depth Interviews, 11-12 September, 2014</b>			
CSOs/NGOs	1 female	Teacher	1 female
Representative of Peasants	1 male	Political activist	1 male
Representative of laborers	1 female	Media person	1 male
Representative of youth	1 male	Govt. official	2 (male & female)
Doctor	1 male	<b>Total Interviews</b>	<b>10 (4 female)</b>

SAP-PK Multan office was instrumental to manage and coordinate the data collection process for the report.

## 2. Analysis and Findings

### Patterns of Planning and Public Spending in District Khanewal

#### Annual Development Programme (ADP) 2014-15 District Khanewal



Public spending pattern in district Khanewal can be indicated by above pie chart. It shows the division of the total budget of 1558.32 Million Rs for the district Annual Development Program (ADP) 2014-15. It can be observed from the illustration that the largest provision has been made for Roads i.e. 22%, followed by 21% for School Education, 17% for Public Buildings and 13% for Health and Family Planning. The smallest allocation has been made for Archaeology, which amounts to 1% of the total budget. Where a large provision has been made for School Education, only 6% of the



budget has been allocated to higher education. Water Supply and Sanitation, Emergency Service, Irrigation, Local Government and Community Development (LG&CD) and Sports and Youth Affairs also have a small share in the total budget at 8%, 4%, 3%, 3% and 2% respectively.

We can observe that clear design methods emerge out of the annual development planning (ADP) in district Khanewal; foremost being the monopoly of construction work. The tilt for construction work can be better understood by details of schemes planned under the ADP, as following:

Rank	Sector	Nature of Development Work
1	Roads	Construction of 9 Roads
2	School Education	Construction and Procurement
3	Public Buildings	10 Construction Scheme/ Rehabilitation of 1 Sewerage System
4	Health and Family Planning	3 Schemes of Hospital Up gradation (Construction)
5	Water Supply and Sanitation	6 Construction and Procurement Schemes
6	Higher Education	5 Schemes of Construction and Procurement
7	Emergency Service	1 Scheme/ Construction and Procurement
8	Irrigation	1 Construction Scheme
9	Sports and Youth Affairs	2 Construction Schemes
10	Archaeology	1 Preservation and Restoration Scheme

Almost all development here is physical infrastructure building and consolidation. This 'Brick and Mortar' approach is based on old growth model, where the government invests more on retaining its single-use delivery facilities in different sectors and leaves less space for training, human resource development and regulatory and policy functions for encouraging other private and social stakeholders to contribute to their respective fields. With an emerging private sector, this approach is also a source of rigid portfolio preservation among civil servants, who deny participation of private and social stakeholders in the planning and implementation of development initiatives.

Secondly, field work in the district revealed that public sector planning and budgeting was an exclusive purview of the government officials and no consultative process was adopted. According to a relevant study, despite being ranked strong in competitiveness of its budget branch, the district Khanewal budget making was very weak in terms of public engagement, weak in timelines followed and very weak in openness in its process.<sup>2</sup> The district also could not produce a Citizen Budget<sup>3</sup> for the public

<sup>2</sup> Centre for Peace and Development Initiative (CPDI) and Citizens Network for Budget Accountability (CNBA). "Study on Budget Making Process at District Level in Punjab (2014-15)", Islamabad: 2014.

consumption, not it has a functional website providing citizens access to district budgets. Feedback to budgetary process by ordinary citizens and key stakeholders is required under the budget rules 2003, starting from the time of Budget Call Letter to its drafting, but this process is not practically implemented. It is further complicated by a contest over allocation of development schemes between officials and the elected representatives.

It was found out that the local civil society organizations and professional groups had no formal access even to the budgetary documents let alone participation in their making. The Right to Information (RTI) legislation of Punjab province is potentially a good tool that the civil society organizations need to master for acquiring district budget information.

When a transparent process is absent and a culture of secrecy reigns, the district budget cannot be properly tracked and monitored by citizens; resulting in arbitrary priorities in allocations. This may also explain why only 3% were allocated for irrigation in an agriculture-based district Khanewal and as to why the sports and youth affairs could not get its 4% due quota; as stipulated under the Punjab Youth Policy 2012.



<sup>3</sup> Citizen Budget is a required and simplified document of district budget that should be released for easy understanding of the general public.



## Summary of Key Results

A sector-wise summary of key results is given ahead in a matrix. It contains key stressors/gaps, situation of public control and access, institutional factors and key areas for advocacy and collaboration actions. Here the key stressors are those gaps which active citizens identified during the consultative process. This qualitative data explains dynamics of public sector functioning in district Khanewal; as the official documents generally provide static data about progress of different sectors. The summary also contains perceptions data on public control and access over public sector assets and ascertains those institutional and structural factors that may cause key stressors and gaps. Moreover, a set of key areas for civil society advocacy and collaborative actions to support the district departments have also been provided.

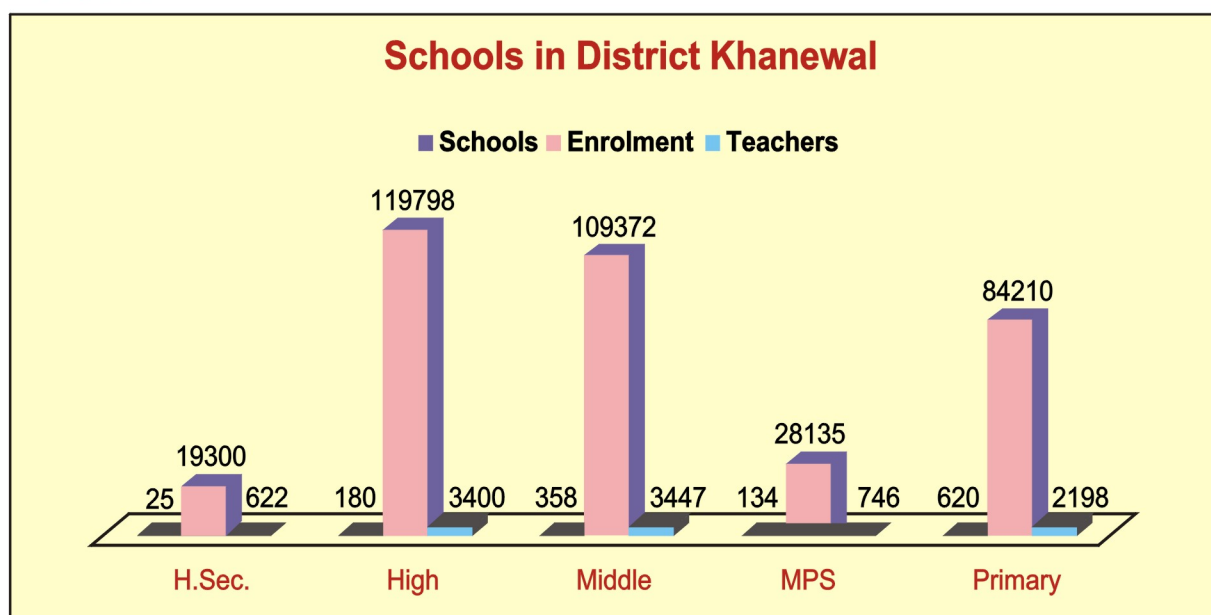
### The summary is given below

Sector	Key Stressors/gaps	Public Control & Access	Institutional factors	Key Areas for Advocacy & Actions
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Missing facilities</li> <li>- Citizens participation</li> <li>- Quality education</li> <li>- Textbook contents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rural – urban divide in education access</li> <li>- Access to information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Centralized planning</li> <li>- Emphasis on enrolment</li> <li>- Curriculum development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Citizens Participation: Functioning of the school management committees</li> <li>- Rural – urban divide</li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Availability of medicine</li> <li>- Quality staff</li> <li>- Community outreach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Access to information</li> <li>- Standards and incentives for district health staff</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Centralized planning</li> <li>- Service structure of doctors and recruitment incentives in districts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Centralized Planning</li> <li>- Standards and incentives for district health staff</li> </ul>
Clean drinking water and sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Water quality and coverage</li> <li>- Integrated water management</li> <li>- Need identification and availability of scientific data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Limited public access</li> <li>- Technical</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Centralized planning</li> <li>- Scientific capacity of district officials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Advocacy for wider coverage of safe drinking water</li> <li>- Identification of good locations for water filtration plants</li> <li>- Periodical audit of safe drinking water facilities in district Khanewal</li> </ul>

Physical Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Roads quality assurance</li> <li>- Need and identification of schemes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Limited public monitoring of communications work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quota for elected representatives in development</li> <li>- Political interference</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mechanism for public monitoring of communications work</li> </ul>
Social Security/ Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Non-availability for the self-employed, informal workers, peasants and women/girls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Limited access and coverage of social security measures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Centralized planning in security and protection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mobilization &amp; organization of citizen groups for access and coverage of social security measures</li> </ul>
Peace and Conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trust over policing/ Local dispute resolution</li> <li>- Sectarian issue and minorities</li> <li>- jihadi recruitment, Farmers' property Rights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mistrust over policing</li> <li>- Political use of sectarian outfits</li> <li>- Farmers' property Rights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Police reforms</li> <li>- Clear policy on sectarian and jihadi outfits</li> <li>- Revenue and Property Rights</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Campaigns on interfaith harmony</li> <li>- Campaigns on Farmers' property rights</li> </ul>

## Sectoral Progress in District Khanewal

### Education





According to latest census of schools (Education Census, 2013), there are 1317 school, hosting 360815 students and 10413 teachers in district Khanewal. The division of schools, in order of their numerical strength, is as following: Primary (620), Middle (358), High (180), Majid Maktab (134) and Higher Secondary (25). Out of these; 346, 196, 70, 12 and 131 are Girls Primary, Girls Middle, Girls High, Girls Higher Secondary and 131 Masjid Maktab schools in the district. Thus the number of all type of girls schools in Khanewal are 755 out of a total of 1317 schools. In terms of enrolment, high schools top with 119798 students and 3400 teachers; followed by 109372 students and 3447 teachers in Middle Schools and 84210 students and 2198 teachers in Primary Schools. Masjid Maktab Schools and Higher Secondary Schools trail with numerical strength of 28135 students and 746 teachers and 19300 students and 622 teachers respectively. However, the gender ratio for enrolment amounts to 54% boys and 46% girls in Primary Schools. This gap widens by 59% boys and 41% girls in Middle Schools, and further increases by 62% boys and 38% girls in High Schools. The official records maintain that there has been a 5.9% increase in total school enrolment for girls as compared with the previous year (2012).

Apart from this, there are 12 technical / commercial / vocational institutions (7 for men and 5 for women) imparting training in various trades. Around 2001 trained technicians/artisans/workers are produced every year from these institutions.

Alif Ailaan data (2014) ranks district Khanewal at 42nd number nationally in terms of its primary education scores, while its gender parity score is comparatively better.

The district is also one of the top areas in Punjab province in terms of its primary school infrastructure scores.

District Khanewal is showing considerable progress in school enrolment and quantitative indicators. The government initiatives have fairly mitigated issues of absentee teachers, the missing facilities, teacher-student ratios in schools; or at least systemic interventions have improved the sorry state of education in the district in quantitative indicators. But there is a range of quality education issues, where there the problem persists. These include equal access to urban and rural centers and gender equity problems; public participation; and attainment in student learning outcomes. This is complicated by issue of curriculum development in terms of its aims and objectives of education and has severe implications for peace and conflict situation in Khanewal and have a fundamental question: are we preparing the students for a diverse, tolerant and peaceful Pakistan. But this question is largely related to education policies as a whole, which shows its impact in Khanewal schools but is primarily outside jurisdiction

of the district education managers. It is also related to over-centralization of the curriculum development processes, which are decided in Lahore. For the convenience of this report, it will be addressed under the sectoral section on peace and conflict.

It was found out during the consultative process, also backed by evidence, that rural population cannot access basic education facilities equally as compared to the urban inhabitants in this district. This problem is accentuated for people living in scattered dwellings. An old data source Pakistan Integrated Household Survey (PIHS), 1991 would reveal that 21 percent of rural girls and 9 percent of rural boys aged 7 to 14 years do not have an appropriate school available within a one kilometer buffer. The school distance is a visible stressor for parents of girls. To counter existing inequalities in access and distribution of existing schools, authorities have to focus on appropriate sites for schools, community awareness, social mobilization, and quality education.

Long distances deter parents to send their daughters to schools. They tend to estimate opportunity cost of education, given its risks and general education standards, and opt for keeping especially their girls out of schools.

Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) Pakistan, 2011, aptly demonstrates, when it comes to quality education and learning outcomes, and the consequent tough choices for parents. Its salient features reveal that in district Khanewal:

- Every 6th child is not in school.
- 29% children in class 5 cannot read story (text of class 2). In other words, 29% children are behind 3 classes with respect to their competency level.
- 29% children cannot read class 2 Urdu text.
- 39% children in class 5 cannot read English sentences (text of class 2). In other words, 39% children are behind 3 classes with respect to their competency level.
- 39% children in Khanewal cannot read class 2 English text.
- 39% children in class 5 cannot do division (3 digits by 1 digit). In other words, 39% children are behind 2 classes with respect to their competency level in Math.
- 39% children cannot do 3 digits division.
- 35.5% children from private and 20.6% children from public schools are attending paid tuition.
- Comparative learning levels of private and public schools indicate that 73.4% of class 5 students in public schools and 52.6% in private schools can read story in

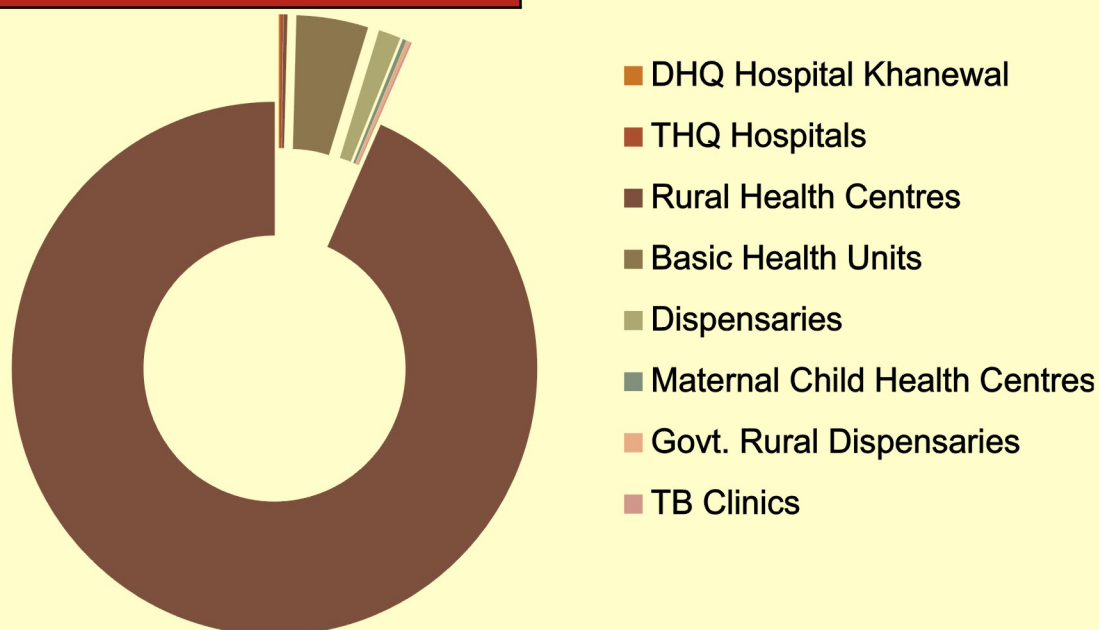


- Urdu. 60.5% of class 5 students in public schools while 63.2% in private schools can read sentences in English. In total, 61.3% of class 5 students in public while 57.9% in private schools can do 3 digits division.
- Only 41% mothers in the district are literate.

Moreover, school management committees are partially established in some urban institutions but their members are not well-familiar about their respective roles. Such bodies, as a tangible form of public participation, need to be activated after due training of its members. The civil society organizations can also help the government in issues of quality education, unequal access between urban and rural populations and learning levels of the students by community mobilization at the public level and through policy debates to devolve education planning processes at the district level.

## Health

### Health Facilities in District



A total number of 1869 health facilities exist in District Khanewal. It includes 1745 Health Houses, 4 Rural Health Centers (RHCs), 82 Basic Health Units (BHUs), 25 Dispensaries, 4 Maternal Child Health Centers, 3 Government Rural Dispensaries, 2 TB Clinics, 3 Tehsil Headquarter (THQ) Hospitals and 1 District Headquarter (DHQ)



Hospital respectively. The total strength and number of functional beds are 529 at DHQ, THQ, RHCs and BHUs level.

**Human resources available with the district health department are as following:**

Nature/Site of Post	Sanctioned	Filled	Vacant
Administrative Posts	22	18	4
Basic Health Units	898	715	183
Rural Health Centers	374	325	49
THQ Hospitals	220	192	27
DHQ Hospitals	149	135	14
Outreach Program Staff	485	446	41
<b>Training Institutions</b>			
District Health Development Centre (DHDC)	6	5	1
General School of Nursing	14	13	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2168</b>	<b>1849</b>	<b>320</b>
<b>Midwifery School</b>			
No. of Current Students: Community Mid Wives (CMWs)		34	
No of passed and deployed in the community		131	
No of passed CMWs		54	

After having a look at the current health facilities and human resources of the district health department, it would be appropriate to identify key health problems in Khanewal. Different data sources indicate that the following problems are most prevalent here:

(i) Diarrhea (ii) Acute Respiratory Infections (ARIs), (iii) Deliveries by unskilled birth attendants, (iv) T.B, (v) Anemia (in pregnancy), (vi) Hepatitis, (vii) Respiratory sinus arrhythmia (RSA), (viii) Diabetes, (ix) Road-side accidents and (x) Dog bites.

When measured by the WHO indicators for prioritization of health problems, the first eight health problems will emerge as most compelling in the same order as given above. This WHO prioritization method is composed of ranking five indicators: magnitude, severity/danger, vulnerability to intervention (feasibility), cost-effectiveness of the intervention and political expediency.

Cursory look at the most severe health problems in district Khanewal will reveal that in most cases they are rooted in social and economic vulnerability of the people and are not just isolated events of medical and technical pathologies. Underlying causes of such diseases can be grouped in four broad categories of social and economic vulnerability, which has direct bearing upon how the state and the society approaches health issues in an integrated way through enabling structures for upward social and

economic mobility, gender equality, provision of basic social services and implementing education, awareness and life-skills programs.

**The defining reasons for most prevalent and severe health issues in district Khanewal are:**

Poverty	Gender and Reproductive Health Issues	Basic Social Services	Education, Awareness and Life-skills
Poverty and malnutrition;	Gender discrimination	Unsafe drinking water	Lack of awareness about balanced diet;
Low socio-economic status	Inadequate and poor MCH Services	Low access to appropriate health services	Lack of awareness among mothers about feeding and weaning practices
Unhygienic practices	Multiple pregnancies	Over-Crowding/Poor housing facilities	Sharing of used syringes
Low buying power for health services	Unsafe sexual practices	Lack of proper sanitation	Transfusion of unsafe/unscreened blood and blood products
	Lack of awareness about danger signs of pregnancy	Poor hygiene and sanitation	Ear piercing and tattooing
	Lack of skilled birth attendants	Lack of safe drinking water	
	Three delays (seeking health care, transportation, and lack of referral back-up services)	Air Contamination	
	Ignorance about body		

There is a need that the government and civil society should join their actions based on this integrated approach to health issues. The latter can provide a mobilizing lead especially in gender and education campaigns. Thus, both can easily benefit from a human security perspective of integrated health services in the district.

The consultative process also brought out two significant issues in delivery of public health services. Firstly, it was generally believed that there was a dearth of quality medicines in the government health facilities which is the main reason stopping citizens to avail services.

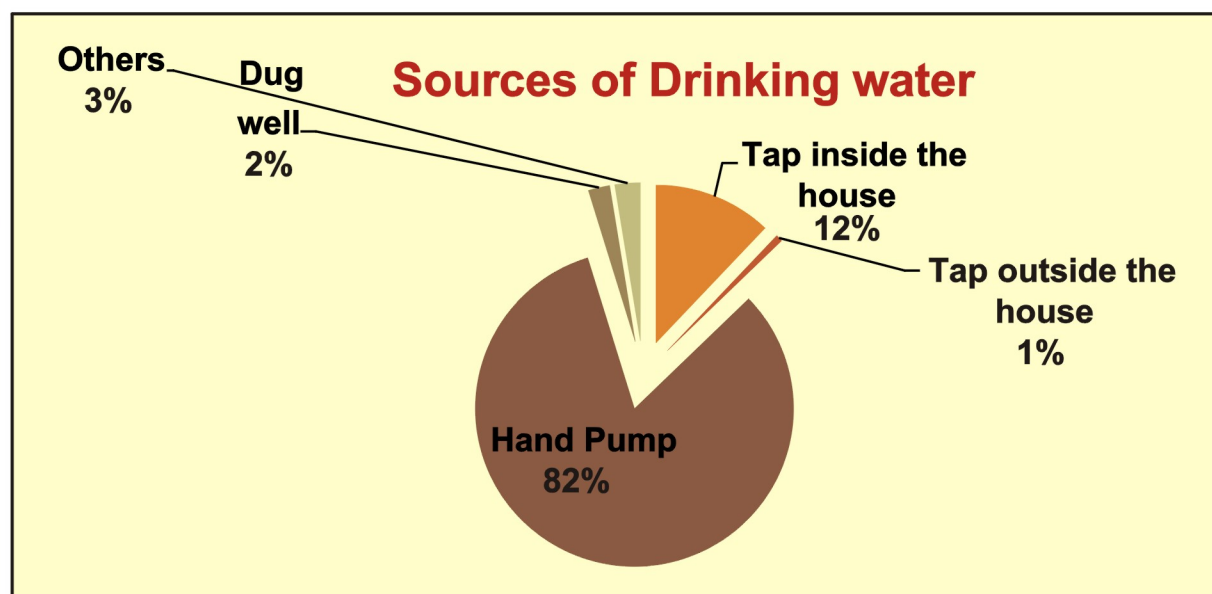


Secondly, it was often criticized that trained doctors do not regularly attend their health facilities and untrained or technically-unequipped support staff perform proxy services in their names especially in rural areas of the district. Health practitioners informed that trained doctors are reluctant to work in rural area health facilities on two counts and discouraging elements: in that, they get no financial or career incentives out of working in depreciating environment. Rather in the long run it harms their financial or career prospects. There are no proper working conditions there, nor do they gain rewarding professional experience in villages and towns due to basic infrastructure, medical practices and provisions of the health services. It was told that, practically speaking, the doctors start their medical practices when they join the district headquarter hospital. Due to such problems, it was divulged that young doctors opt for leaving out of the rural health facilities as soon as they could, in the hope of better financial and career prospects. Government can resolve this issue with appropriate policy decisions by amending service structure for mandatory rural health practice and uplift in the profile of health services.

Furthermore, it was also found out that public participation in health planning and implementation was virtually next to none in district Khanewal despite its potential to generate political willingness to invest more on health sector.

### **Clean drinking water and sanitation**

From among key health issues in Khanewal, as mentioned above, two most severe diseases, diarrhea and Hepatitis B&C, have a direct link with unsafe drinking water in the district. There are, however, conflicting data available on this subject.





### Official Figures of Access to Safe Drinking Water in District Khanewal

Access to drinking water 97%	Use of improved drinking water sources 99%	Safe drinking water without bacteria 60%
Use of properly treated water 1.1%	Use of sanitary means of excreta disposal 64%	Use of improved water sources and improved sanitation 64%

Official figures claim a massive coverage and access to the safe drinking water; as shown in above table.<sup>4</sup> Some other government documents also make similar claims, though in other ratios. Nevertheless, scientific data by the government agencies that water is hugely unsafe in district Khanewal. According to the Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR) study,<sup>5</sup> on the overall, in district Khanewal, 720 water samples were collected from 144 villages, 4 Tehsils (113 union councils). The results on water quality have shown that 86% of collected water samples were unsafe mainly due to the presence of microbiological Hardness, Turbidity and Iron.

Experts believe that further water contamination is mainly due to sub-standard water and sanitation schemes, corrupt practices and non-technical design of WASH programs. The government by using traditional, tested and appropriate methods can purify groundwater. Instead, un-maintained water filtration plants are encouraged as a panacea to provide safe drinking water, which is costly and unsustainable.

Civil society in this regards need to work with elected representatives, because most of their development projects fall in the WASH categories. Technical capacity and accurate data is yet another issue that has to be redeemed at the district level and not as part of the programs conceived by donors and the government in Islamabad.

### Physical infrastructure and roads

Since there exists a heavy tilt for infrastructure and building as development at the district level planning, Khanewal shows fair progress in its physical infrastructure and roads. It has total metaled to the tune of 2203.03 KM. This is complemented by its strong railways base. The issue here is more about governance and planning process, spread and selection of communication network through public money, equity and public monitoring of infrastructure projects.

<sup>4</sup> Government of the Punjab. Punjab Health Sector Reforms Program (PHSRP). "Three Year Rolling Plan 2010-2013," District Khanewal.

<sup>5</sup> Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR), Ministry of Science and Technology. "Water Quality Monitoring in Rural Areas of Four Districts (Badin, Nawabshah, Vehari and Khanewal)," Islamabad: May 2014.

There is limited public monitoring of communications work and quality assurance. Development quota for elected representatives is arbitrary and proves a political settlement of resource distribution mechanism between the politicians and bureaucrats, resulting in compromise and inefficiency of the infrastructure development work.

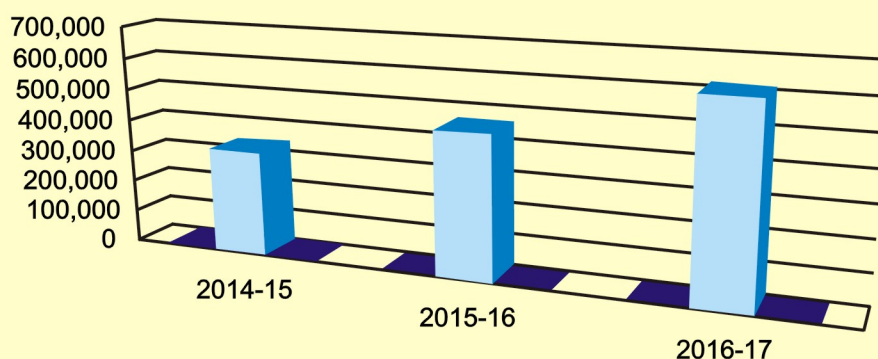
Apart from roads and communication networks, the public sector has a vast layout of self-serving and single-use buildings and infrastructure controlled by the government.

There is a need that such infrastructure i.e. schools, health facilities, government buildings, residential colonies, etc. should be properly used and their occupancy frequencies and usage must be determined. Why we cannot have standards procedures for community use of these state assets for public interest activities?

The government has to spend undue amounts on retaining the public sector buildings, which is also a form of taxation to the ordinary people.

### Social security/protection

**Punjab: Medium Term Development Framework (MTDF) 2014 -17  
Allocation on Social Protection**



	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Allocation (M)	1,800	2,500	3,000
Grand Total	330,000	452,000	609,000
%age	0.54	0.55	0.49

In Punjab province, a number social security programs exist or are in the making: Employees Old age Benefit Institution (EOBI); Social Security Institutions; Workers' Welfare Fund; Punjab Social Protection Authority; Khud Rozgar Bank; Health Insurance Scheme; Zakat and allied schemes (general and technical educational stipends, for health care, social welfare, leprosy patients etc.); and disbursements through Pakistan Bait-ul-Mall (PBM), also catering to the minorities, and a wide variety of programs that



encompass food support, individual financial assistance, child support through the National Centre for Rehabilitation of Child Labor, and institutional rehabilitation (grants to NGO's); Benazir Income Support Program, and many others like the Social Security/Social Insurance and Government Servants Pension Fund. Despite such variety of initiatives, district Khanewal is not included in a visible way indicating systemic exclusion of the marginalized sections of the society.

**Some of the key issues in social protection and security are as under:**

- i. There is less and limited coverage due to little expenditure. As the chart given before shows, in the Punjab MTDF 2014-17, the planned allocation on social protection is 0.54%, 0.55% and 0.49% respectively for the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17. Given past track, the actual spending is likely to go down. Stated vision of the Social Protection Program (Punjab MTDF 2014-17) is “to achieve the ultimate goals of welfare state through socio-economic uplift of people free from economic adversity, discrimination and vulnerability with special emphasis on empowerment of women both socially and economically.”
- ii. Most protection programs cater to the formal sector and public sector employees. There is a need to extend these benefits to entire working age population including informal and seasonal workers, peasants and the self-employed as well. Only 2.4 per cent of the labor force is unionized and can effectively bargain for such benefits. As a result, the rural areas as a whole and agriculture sector workers are particularly left out of the social protection coverage, depriving vast majority of marginalized sections of Pakistan.
- iii. There is severe information gap to access the social protection services and benefits. Civil society needs to advocate the government for greater transparency and making audited accounts of all protection institutions available to the public through websites of relevant institutions. Existing disbursements made in secrecy and often attached with political strings have to be discouraged.
- iv. There is a need that underemployment and unemployment especially in the agricultural sector should also be addressed within a social protection framework to reduce migration to cities and to increase incentives for development of rural areas.
- v. One of the effective ways is to include market forces in the protection drive by creating incentives for women employment in health and education sector. They

can prove a good human resource in outreach, awareness and marketing programs especially in health and technical education services.

- vi. In governance, there is a need to create coordinating mechanism among various protection agencies and between the Centre and the Province after enactment of 18<sup>th</sup> amendment to the constitution. Under the new arrangements, 47 labor-related policy and legal entries of concurrent list now have been shifted to the provinces. These also comprise 6 labor related issues dealing with: (a) No. 26 on welfare of labor, conditions of labor, provident fund, employers' liability, workmen's compensation, health insurance including invalidity pensions, old age pension; (b) No. 27 on trade unions; and industrial and labor disputes; (c) No. 28 on setting up and carrying out of labor (employment) exchanges, employment information bureaus and training establishments; (d) No. 30 regulation of labor and safety in mines, factories and oil fields; (e) No. 31 on unemployment insurance, and (f) No. 45 on inquiries and statistics for the purpose of any matters in this list.
- vii. The Poverty Score Card, developed by BISP, can act as a standardized instrument to determine eligibility of protection services and benefits and will be an effective coordinating tool in this multi-sectoral campaign.

<b>Constitutional Provisions on Labor Rights</b>
Article 11 prohibits all forms of slavery, forced labor and child labor.
Article 17 provides for a fundamental right to exercise the freedom of association and the right to form unions.
Article 18 proscribes the right of its citizens to enter upon any lawful profession or occupation and to conduct any lawful trade or business.
Article 25 lays down the right to equality before the law and prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of sex alone
Article 37(e) makes provision for securing just and humane conditions of work, ensuring that children and women are not employed in vocations unsuited to their age or sex, and for maternity benefits for women in employment.

- viii. Labor laws have to be made stringent to work in favor of the marginalized groups through a number of labor law clauses: contract of employment, termination of the contract, working time and rest time, working hours, paid leave, maternity leave and maternity protection, other leave entitlements, minimum age and protection of young workers, equality, pay issues, workers' representation in the enterprise, trade union and employers association regulation, freedom of association, registration of



trade unions, collective bargaining and agreements, collective labor disputes, conciliation, arbitration, strikes and lock-outs, proceedings of strikes and lock-outs, illegal strikes and lock-outs, settlement of individual labor disputes and strong labor courts, etc.

- ix. In terms of gender, there were rare incidents of customary practices as Karo Kari and Vani, etc., in Khanewal had rare. However, its traditional communities had firm codes to discriminate against women as a norm. Because of traditional and rural set-up, women had mobility to go to the markets within a set dress code and in traditional roles. According to statistics compiled in 2011, the district ranked 9th in Punjab province in occurrences of violence against women. Such reported and pursued crimes included abduction/kidnapping (43 events), acid throwing (1), burning (0), domestic violence (8), honor killing (21), murder (28), rape/gang rape (31), sexual assault (1), suicide (16) and miscellaneous (57), reaching to a total of 206 events in that year. In the coming year (2012), the district was placed at 15th number in events of violence against women in Punjab. Since there is less market mobility and rapid urbanization has not happened here, it is yet to find how the district will respond to young girls coming out for employment and other roles outside their homes in a non-traditional manner.
- Currently, young girls in urban centers and townships are lying idle and have no outlets for self-expression, leisure and fun. Those educated tend to opt safer occupations in education, often on low wages. A whole crop of young women in district Khanewal cannot realize their social roles and live within unfavorable gender relations in the society. Social protection initiatives in the district are unable to uplift them on social and economic accounts.
- x. Civil society organizations along with elected representatives can mobilize public demands for inclusion of district Khanewal in social security and protection programs and spread awareness to access such resources for marginalized groups in the district.

### **Peace and conflict**

District Khanewal has a legacy of traditional societies which has been peaceful and quiet under its socio-economic hierarchical order and client-patron relationships. However, with urbanization and monetization of services the social milieu is changing, and new patterns are emerging in the form of conflicts. The urban/sub-urban population is challenging political supremacy of erstwhile rural elite, and shifts in gender relations

are acting as stressors on social cohesion. Despite having rising expectations, youth is largely idle and have less opportunities and platforms for positive engagement. To make matters worse, jihadi recruitment starting from 1980s have bred a crop of militants who asserts through violent means, often expressed in suppression of members of minority sects and religions internally and jihadi activities outside the district.

Evidence from our consultative process and existing literature indicates that the district is marred by following key peace and conflict issues:

- i. Mistrust over formal policing system and preference for customary local dispute resolution
- ii. Sectarian issue and jihadi movement
- iii. Clashes over farmers' property rights

It was reiterated during the consultative process that people in Khanewal mostly depend upon both out-of-court or using police and courts as leverage outside to settle their disputes. This has partially to do with convenient customary practices, but also is linked with affordable costs of traditional methods and their ability to redeem losses and repay compensation rather than punishment framework of the mainstream legal system which does not compensate losses to the aggrieved party. On the flip side, the customary legal practices may inflict upon the weaker parties in the absence of a well-defined system and is liable to corrupt and repressive practices especially against women and the poor. Such practices can be evident in areas of Khanewal where the feudal still dominate i.e. Kabirwala. Other regular crimes are also witnessed in similar areas.

Another significant source of conflict comes from a youth bulge in the district. Youth are probable foot soldiers of every conflict here. The next generation has fewer opportunities for positive interactions, social and economic engagement, and hopes for the future. In Khanewal, the sports facilities and grounds were shrinking and youth-gathering activities were mostly undertaken by faith-based youth groups affiliated with religious political parties or faith-based groups.

It was found out during the consultative process that civil society activists and youth were not familiar with district budgetary allocation of sports and youth affairs and government outreach to community was limited despite having sports facilities and youth initiatives.

A new phenomenon in district Khanewal is emerging in the gradual visibility of sectarian and Jehadi outfits. According to security and media reports, the district



proves to be a key recruitment place to the militant groups. Many of the high-profile militants come from the district generally as part of the so-called Punjabi Taliban. There are strong claims of Khanewal being safe haven for terrorists.<sup>6</sup> Journalists, international media, district administration and police have been sending and writing reports about this land captured by purist and radical Islamists since year 1992 (first report was submitted by a top district administration officer that huge funding is coming from Saudi Arabia and Gulf for the construction of mosques, Madrassahs and mosques with Madrassahs. Such reports comprehend that a handful of Madrassahs are involved in criminal activities; after their establishment during Gen. Zia-ul-Haq regime, to support Afghan war. Only 99 Madrassahs and mosques were registered in Khanewal and a majority is still unregistered.

Before the advent of militancy for Afghan war, local politicians traditionally tended to attract pockets of sectarian outfits for winning over their votes. Partly, due to this, feudal politicians who belonged to Shia community have lost their electoral influence.

Leaders of minority sects and religions are quite apprehensive about militancy rise in the district. However, many local journalists are complacent about this phenomenon and find it difficult to separate jihadi groups from mainstream religious political parties. Over the time, there has also been a trend to bring sporadic pockets of sectarian and militants groups into mainstream politics. Religious political parties in the last two national elections contested on Khanewal seats, without any success. Due to such political activities, the militant groups have been separated from mainstream faith-based groups. But with carnage of Shanti Nagar (1997) in the backdrop, no stable patterns can be established for a peaceful scenario in the district. Khanewal needs civil society and the government working in collaboration to counter violent militancy. Because of socio-economic development and urbanization, the conflict can transform into political contests on urban and rural lines.

Khanewal is a diverse society. There is a variety of communities living in it, belonging to different religious, sectarian, urban/rural, settler/native identities. This also includes 48,831 members of Christian community, which makes it 2.36% of the total population of this district (Monthly Herald, October 2002). Unlike other parts of Punjab province, this community has a sizable portion of middle class families. Faith-based Christian organizations have fairly contributed to promote a culture of peace in the district. There has been effort made to realize youth the social context and develop leadership; so

<sup>6</sup> Iqrar Haroon, Agha. "Khanewal is safe haven for terrorists, claim investigative reports of intelligence agencies", Despatch News Desk (DND), February 8, 2014. Available at URL: <http://www.dnd.com.pk/khanewal-safe-haven-terrorists-claims-intelligence-report/>

that they serve as catalysts to people of different faiths, sects and cultural background to sustain culture of peace and harmony initiatives. Interfaith dialogues and multi-religious events are also part of such initiatives.

The issues of peace and conflict irrespective of their local nuisance, however, also require policy interventions and advocacy work to amend crucial area of curriculum and textbooks. Evidence collected by SDPI survey of school students in coordination with local organization Baithak in the form of a report, entitled "Detailed Report on Survey of Education in Public and Madrassah Schools in Khanewal", provides important information on what we are teaching to our children and what are their worldviews in Khanewal. The survey report indicates that many school students knew very little about non-Muslims. Some even had negative opinions about Shias. They unanimously regarded 'Jihad' as a holy war against enemies of Islam. Some considered Hindus and Sikhs as enemies of Islam and others thought Jews and the Christians were. According to majority, non-Muslims annoyed them because of idol worship, alcoholism and non-observance of purdah (veil). This Khanewal survey clearly establishes to work on diversity issues and for policy actions to change our official curriculum that would help students to celebrate diversity in Pakistan and get rid of narrow thinking.

Another issue that disrupts human security and rights in Khanewal is related to Tenants Rights Movement (Anjuman-e-Mazareen Punjab - AMP). There has been a consistent movement for land entitlements over 70,000 acres in Punjab province for the last 15 years. Even though tenants have been cultivating these farm lands since 4 generations and their lease expired in 1938, various government bodies including the military, livestock department and Punjab Seed Corporation occupy these farm lands. In district Khanewal there are 5 such farms spread over 5900 acres of land and 15 villages. Military is not a party in this district unlike many others.

The tenants demand that the government of Punjab, the legal owner, should distribute 12 acre land of farms per family and give entitlements. The British government established these forms in early 20<sup>th</sup> century while laying out canal and irrigation system.

The tenants got really agitated after introduction of a new piece-rate and a yearly lease agreement in these farms in July 2000.

Tenants' representatives (AMP) have resorted to all sort of resistance, from agitation to procedural and legal activism, and have sacrificed lives of many of their colleagues, but the issue is still unresolved. The situation particularly in Okara farms went violent. There have also been financial and police pressure tactics used on the tenants, but the



movement goes on. Addressing these rightful demands, represent the conditions for provision of entitlements, without which the human security of poor tenants of Punjab people is at risk. Additionally, to credit of the state, this will set a good example of rights going to the rightful people and not a selected few powerful groups who are usurping it.



## **1. Conclusion and Recommendations**

### **Hub to Coordinate Human Security Activities in District Khanewal**

Needless to say that many civil society organizations, government institutions and private stakeholders are in some way engaged with aspects of human security in district Khanewal. They need to be connected to share and review their respective activities on periodical basis.

Taking officials and representatives of the line-departments will not be an easy job, but is rewarding and worth working on. A list of illustrative actions is as following:

- i. Sharing the Human Security Report of District Khanewal with public and policy stakeholders.
- ii. Connecting civil society and government line-departments by setting up planning meetings on at least quarterly basis.
- iii. Documenting a register of visits by hub members to civil society, government and private bodies.
- iv. Releasing periodical updates on hub members' individual meetings for the prospects of joint actions and information resource sharing.

### **Improving the Quality of Basic Services**

- v. Information availability to relevant organizations working on basic services.
- vi. Credible information sharing on education, health, clean drinking water and sanitation, physical infrastructures, social security/ protection and basic services in district Khanewal.
- vii. Highlight integrated approaches to basic services and their linkages with poverty and vulnerability.
- viii. Training of civil society and relevant organizations on Right to Information (RTI) legislation of Punjab and on practical steps to access official information under this law.
- ix. Promotion of a culture of peace.



- x. Meetings with elected representatives on issues of demand generation and awareness raising to access easy delivery of basic services.
- xi. Set-up rapid and joint missions to probe peace and security issues in the district.
- xii. Support government departments in their outreach and public participation programs especially on education and health issues and help them disseminate public service messages.
- xiii. Organize talks, rallies, campaigns, seminars and public gatherings to raise awareness about district human security issues.
- xiv. Involving youth as volunteers for awareness campaigns and creating opportunities for their interaction on social, development and human security causes.
- xv. Ensure that women are integral part of the human security initiatives in district Khanewal.

### **Participation in Public Planning and Budgetary Process**

- xvi. Ensure that civil society is involved in public planning and budgetary process.
- xvii. Ensure that district budget office releases Statements of Citizens Budget for easy understanding of the district budget.
- xviii. Ascertain that the district manages a function website containing relevant information for public use.

### **Program Development**

- i. The collaborative actions should be properly documented and disseminated. This will help in district-specific program development. This process of evidence-based documentation will prove an excellent and credible base for a program on human security that is relevant to the needs of citizens of Khanewal.
- ii. The guiding principles of such a human security programs are (i) people centered, (ii) comprehensive, (iii) multi sectoral (iv) context specific, and (v) prevention oriented. It will involve five phases: PHASE 1: Situational Analysis; PHASE 2: Mapping Needs, Vulnerabilities and Capacities; PHASE 3: Build

Protection and Empowerment Strategies; PHASE 4: Implement in a participatory manner, and PHASE 5: Human Security Impact Assessment.<sup>7</sup>

- iii. The present Human Security Report in hand fulfils needs of phases 1 and 2 fully, and partially the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase for Program Development on District Khanewal.



<sup>7</sup> UN OCHA, Human Security Unit. "Human Security Handbook", available at: <http://ochaonline.un.org/humansecurity/Reports/tabid/2186/language/en-US/Default.aspx>



South Asia Partnership Pakistan (SAP-PK) is part of volunteer network of participatory development-support organizations operating under the same name and for the same purposes in Canada and six South Asian countries, i.e., Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Being a national level organization SAP-Pakistan is advocating the rights of the marginalized and supporting sustainable development of the economically and socially disadvantaged groups especially women and non-Muslim citizens.

**Citizens First:** Improving Human Security program aims to achieve durable peace and enable sustainable development, key drivers of conflict need to be addressed. This can include strengthening the social contract between government and society, based on the rule of law, human rights, and addressing the equitable sharing of resources, inequality and the marginalization of citizens. Our approach is to find ways to support and give voice to vulnerable groups such as women, and ensure their inclusion in political reconciliation processes. We also play an important role in holding duty bearers accountable for upholding the rights of civilians.



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