



Joining hands to defeat Polio



Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring & Coordination Cell

Message from Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Prime Minister's Focal Person on Polio Eradication	01
Introduction of Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring & Coordination Cell	02
Polio Cases Update	03
Independent monitoring results of anti-polio campaigns	03
Engagement of Parliamentarians	07
Engagements of Parliamentarians with media	13
Engagements with Religious Scholars and Ulema	17
Collaboration with Partners	18
Interactions and Review of Meetings	20
Field Visits	22
Current Financial Assistance & Funding Gap	22
Recommendations of TAG meeting held from 21-22nd March 2012	23
Regular activities of the Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell	24
- Daily media monitoring and circulation	
- Fortnightly Polio Alert E-Newsletter	
- Polio Control Cell	
- Polio Alert Messages	
- Mass Media Campaigns	



Message

Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali

Special Assistant to Prime Minister
& Prime Minister's Focal Person on Polio Eradication

Polio is a disease that causes permanent irreversible disability amongst children. The only way to guard against it is to ensure that all children under 5 years of age are administered polio vaccine through routine immunization at 6 weeks, 10 weeks and 14 weeks of age and during every polio campaign. Since polio is among the few diseases which can not only be controlled but eradicated forever; all out efforts are being made globally to rid the world of this disease that once caused permanent irreversible disability to over 350,000 children across the globe.

You would recall that Pakistan joined the community of nations in fighting polio in 1994 when our leader, Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto launched a nation-wide campaign against polio. Mohtarma Shaheed held the cause of polio eradication very close to her heart launching it by vaccinating her own daughter, Aseefa Bhutto Zardari and making special mention of the initiative in her last speech on 27th of December, 2007.

Taking note of the seriousness of the situation, the Prime Minister constituted a National Task Force on Polio Eradication under his leadership with all Chief Ministers, Governor KPK and Prime Minister AJK as members. The task force endorsed an Augmented National Emergency Action Plan for Polio Eradication with focus on oversight, accountability and involvement of public representatives.

Since I nominated as the Prime Minister's Focal Person for Polio, I have made every endeavor to follow up on the decisions taken by the National Task Force and ensure that steps beings taken in the provinces are fully aligned to its recommendations. The task may be challenging but certainly not impossible.

I must say that no success can be achieved without the active participation of parents, social workers, religious and community leaders, teachers and volunteers. They need to play proactive role in ensuring that the message of this campaign which is protection from life-long disability is taken to every household.

Lets's all fight polio to the finish.

1. Introduction of the Prime Minister's Monitoring & Coordination Cell

In the wake of polio emergency declared by Honourable President of Pakistan when he launched the National Emergency Action Plan on Polio Eradication on January 24, 2011, following its approval by the Prime Minister and all Chief Ministers, there was a need to establish a mechanism for monitoring and coordination of Polio Eradication activities nation-wide.

The Monitoring Cells were required to establish on urgent basis at central and provincial levels. A summary to establish the Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring & Coordination Cell was moved by the then Secretary Health on February 25, 2011. The summary was accorded approval by the Prime Minister on 3rd March, 2011. Thereafter, a formal notification was issued on 18th March, 2011 by the Prime Minister's Secretariat housing the cell in its premises with the following ToRs;

- a. To liaise on a regular basis with the Provincial Monitoring Cells, Provincial health departments, National and Provincial EPI teams, Chief Secretaries office, DCOs, EDOs Health and other relevant departments and organizations to regularly monitor the progress of the Polio Eradication Initiative and provide feedback to the Prime Minister.
- b. To facilitate and ensure the establishing of Polio Monitoring Cells at the Provincial level in line with announcement made by the Prime Minister on 14th January, 2011.
- c. To provide guidance, technical input and situation analysis to the National Task Force on Polio Eradication led by the Prime Minister.

After the devolution of the health sector, there was an urgent need for an apex coordinating body to oversee the nation-wide efforts as the program not only extended to every part of country but also had global dimensions. The cell was thus assigned the role of coordination with both International & Provincial stakeholders for successful implementation of the programme ensuring standardized service delivery and synergy in fighting a disease that transcends national and provincial borders.

An additional duty was assigned to Dr. Altaf Bosan, the National Manager of the Expanded Programme on Immunization to lead the cell as its National Coordinator with a team of experts. The cell set about its work of ensuring that there is uninterrupted supply of vaccine for all polio campaigns, resources are generated through active collaboration with international partners and coordinate the development of internationally recognized strategies to deal with the challenge ensuring Pakistan remains on course in its fight against polio.

On November 24, 2011, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, Shahnaz Wazir Ali was assigned by the Prime Minister as the PM's Focal Person on Polio Eradication. With years of experience in the social and development sector and having been part of the team under former Prime Minister, Benazir Bhutto, that conceived and launched the country's National Anti-Polio Campaign, she has brought immense value to the polio eradication work. She provides guidance to both the PM's Monitoring Cell and Provincial Monitoring Cells besides following up with Chief Ministers and Chief Secretaries on the progress of implementation of National Emergency Action Plan (NEAP) both during the preparatory phase and in conduct of the campaign. Dr. Altaf Bosan, possessing vast experience of public health with special focus on Child immunization programs having led the Expanded Program on Immunization for many years, was assigned the all important task of running the cell on full time basis and assisting PM's Focal Person on Polio Eradication in performance of her duties.

Strict monitoring at all levels, ownership, oversight and accountability are critical to achieving the goal of stopping poliovirus transmission and eventual eradication of the virus from Pakistan.

The role of the Deputy Commissioners is of immense importance. PM's Polio Monitoring Cell is facilitating the involvement of Parliamentarians and Religious Leaders to support the district administration in the effort.

2. Polio Cases Update

As of 30th April 2012, Pakistan has reported a total of 15 polio cases (13 type-1, 1 type-3 & 1 mixture type-1& 3) from 10 districts/tribal agencies. The date of onset of paralysis of the last polio case in the country is 11th March (Khyber Agency;FATA). The date of onset of paralysis of the last polio case from outside FATA is 27th January (Hyderabad, Sindh).

Polio cases by Province & Year

PROVINCE	2010	2011	2012*
PUNJAB	0	0	1
SINDH	1	6	2
KP	3	2	4
FATA	4	13	6
BALUCHISTAN	3	4	2
PAKISTAN	11	25	15

* AFP Data as of 31-03-2012

FATA reported Six (6) cases of which Five (5) were from Khyber Agency and one (1) from North Waziristan. Both the areas remain partially inaccessible to polio teams. Four (4) cases were reported from KP of which one (1) case each was reported from D.I. Khan, Lakki Marwat, Kohat and Peshawar. It may be mentioned that 2 cases reported in KP (D.I. Khan and Lakki Marwat) are linked to FATA.

Two (2) cases from Sindh belong to Hyderabad and Mirpur Khas. Two (2) cases reported from Balochistan belong to Quetta whereas the lone case reported in Punjab is from Jhang.

3. Independent monitoring results of anti-polio campaigns

Finger Marking Vaccination Coverage ~ – 2011-12 SIAs Proportion of UCs with vaccination coverage <95%

Province / region	UCs having finger marking coverage <95%											
	Jan, 2011	Mar, 2011	Apr, 2011	May, 2011	Jun, 2011	Jul, 2011	Sep, 2011	Oct, 2011	Dec, 2011	Jan, 2012	Mar, 2012	
Punjab	27	11	11	8	7	6	7	6	6	6	6	
Sindh	41	38	39	36	20	5	16	12	10	11	10	
KP	36	56	39	29	22	18	21	16	17	20	17	
FATA	37	39	35	36	56	53	37	40	46	29	41	
Balochistan	57	55	49	46	58	54	51	48	59	57	40	
AJK		32		30		29		34		8		
G.Baltistan		13		22		35	50	31		30		
Islamabad	75	60	85	63	48	60	63	66	40	52	58	
Pakistan	37	31	32	25	29	19	22	20	21	18	17	

	≥ 20% Union councils
	10-19% Union councils
	<10% Union councils
	No campaign planned being SNIDs

This is a standard practice after every campaign, independent third party monitoring of polio campaign assessment is carried out and share with the provinces and districts.

There has been progressive improvement in campaign coverage assessed through finger marking of the children. Overall in the January round, 37 percent union councils of the country had less than 95 percent coverage whereas in the March campaign 17 percent union councils had coverage less than 95 percent. FATA, Balochistan and Islamabad however, still had high proportion of UCs below 95%.

Finger Marking Vaccination Coverage[^]- District Level 2011-12 SIAs
Proportion of all districts with vaccination coverage ≥95%

SIAs	Punjab		Sindh		Karachi towns		KP		FATA [^]		Balochistan		Pakistan		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Mar (SNIDs) 2012	22 22	100	17 17	100	16 18	89	13 17 ^o	77	1	7 ^o	17	2 8 ^o	26	71 91	80
Jan (NIDs) 2012	35 35 ^o	100	23 23	100	15 18	83	15 21 ^o	71	3 7 ^o	43	5 24 ^o	21	103 139	74	
Dec(SNIDs) 2011	22 22 ^o	100	14 17 ^o	82	7 9	78	14 20	70	2 7 ^o	29	4 13	31	83 90	70	
Oct (NIDs) 2011	35 36	97	19 23	83	16 18	89	15 21 ^o	71	3 7 ^o	43	07 21 ^o	33	105 144	72	
Sep (SNIDs) 2011	20 21	95	19 21 ^o	90	10 18	56	16 22	73	3 7 ^o	43	04 13	31	72 104	69	
Jul (NIDs) 2011	36 36	100	23 23	100	13 18	72	22 24 ^o	92	0 7	0	10 30	32	114 156	76	
Jun (SNIDs) 2011	14 15	93	17 22	77	06 18	33	15 20	75	0 6 ^o	0	04 13	31	56 95	59	
May (NIDs) 2011	36 36	100	14 23	61	08 18	44	14 24	58	0 6 ^o	0	12 30	40	96 155	62	
Apr (SNIDs) 2011	10 11	91	10 20	50	09 18	50	08 12	67	1 7	14	10 17	69	47 86	55	
Mar (NIDs) 2011	36 36	100	7 23	30	11 18	61	07 24	29	0 7	0	09 30	30	84 156	54	
Jan (SNIDs) 2011	9 12	75	5 13	38	12 18	37	05 10	50	0 7	0	01 12	8	31 73	42	

Marked improvement has also been observed in coverage by finger marking in the districts. In January 2011, only 42 percent districts showed over 95 percent coverage whereas in March 2012, around 80 percent districts have shown coverage over 95 percent. There has been significant improvement in Punjab and Sindh after introduction and implementation of the National Emergency Action Plan. Areas shown in red require attention as the performance has not been up to the mark.

Province	Total Lots	Not rejected at 95%
Punjab	10	8
Sindh	41	33
KP	17	14
FATA	1	0
Balochistan	9	4
Total	78	59

The second round of National Immunization Days (NIDs) in this year was conducted from 23-25th April targeting around 34million children aged less than 5 years; with a mix of bOPV and tOPV. Vitamin A was also administered to the children aged 6-59 months. The map of available results of LQAS is attached (LQAS April 2012.pdf). The campaign started in Azad Jammu & Kashmir on 1st May and will commence in Gilgit Baltistan on 2nd May. The second phase of the staggered NIDs will start on 7th May in Balochistan; covering the Quetta, Pishin and Killa Abdullah districts (QuettaBlock).



Engagement with Parliamentarians

4. Engagement with Parliamentarians



Prime Minister launching NIDs in April 2012



Prime Minister meeting polio effected children

A practical strategy is developed to involve the parliamentarians in the PEI is being implemented by Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring Cell. Members of the National Assembly and Senate are being contacted and linked with Deputy Commissioners in the district to ensure their active partnership with and support to the district team. All Deputy Commissioners have been directed to make the Parliamentarians part of the District Polio Eradication Committees, seek their support in dealing with refusals, engaging female team members in teams, participating in launches and mobilizing the communities through their influence and network. Parliamentarians are also being connected with the media by the Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring Cell to ensure that they are accountable and media contacts them on issues ranging from sub-optimal performance in their districts to occurrence of cases and specific issues like involvement of lady health workers and non-co-operation of line departments. Liaison was facilitated between the Parliamentarians of high risk zones and provincial administration and partners to initiate coordinated efforts in polio eradication initiative. Communication gaps are being bridged between the stakeholders and elected representatives, for instance connections are facilitated between MNA of Khyber Agency, Mr. Hameedullah Jan Afridi and FATA administration,

between Senator Shahi Syed and high risk areas of Karachi, similarly leaders of MQM are linked with the respective administration. Lisison is also being facilitated between leaders of JUI-F and provincial team of Balochistan.

Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani, Prime Minister of Pakistan inaugurated the Nationwide Polio Campaign-NIDs on April 20, 2012 in Prime Minister House. Prime Minister also met the polio affected children at the inaugural ceremony. Key representatives of Parliament including Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani, Federal Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination, Nawabzada Malik Amad Ahmed Khan, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Abbas Khan Afridi, Minister of State for Commerce, Mr. Moazzam Ali Jatoi, Minister of State for National Food Security and



Chairman Senate launching SNIDs in March 2012

Research, Senator Syeda Sughra Imam, Ms. Asma Arbab Alamgir and Senator Dr. Saeeda Iqbal also attended the ceremony.

Senator Nayyar Hussain Bukhari, Chairman Senate launched SNIDs on March 11, 2012 at the premises of CDA Directorate of Health Services.

Punjab: Polio campaign was inaugurated by Chief Minister, Punjab, Mian Shahbaz Sharif at Children Hospital on 21st April, 2012.

Sindh: Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, Chairperson National Monitoring Committee inaugurated campaign in District Shaheed Benazirabad on 21st April, 2012.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa & FATA: Provincial launching was done by Governor, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on 20th April, 2012 and the Chief Justice of Peshawar High Court launched the campaign on 21st April, 2012.

Balochistan: Chief Secretary, Balochistan inaugurated the campaign on 22nd April, 2012 and Pakistan Tehriq-e-Insaf Leader, Imran Khan gave polio vaccine drops to the children in Quetta on 20th April, 2012.



Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho launching NIDs in April 2012



Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa speaking at the NIDs launch in April 2012



Deputy Speaker National Assembly launching SNIDs in March 2012



Chief Minister Punjab at the occasion of the NIDs launch in April 2012

Similarly launches of polio campaigns were organized in all districts and polio campaigns were inaugurated by Parliamentarians, members of the provincial Assemblies and DCO/DCs of the districts.



SNIDs launched by Dr. Sagheer Ahmed, Provincial minister for Health, Sindh



SNIDs launched by Khawaja Salman Rafiq, Advisor Health



Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, addressing the media



Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, speaking at the launching ceremony of NIDs



Abdul Rasheed Godil, MNA launching NIDs in Karachi East



MNA Ms. Parveen Masood Bhatti, Provincial Minister Malik Iqbal Chunnar and MPA Mr. Jahanzeb Warn launching polio campaign in Bahawalpur



Mr. Shakeel Awan, MNA launching polio round in district Rawalpindi



Provincial Minister Haji Toor Tamankhel, Balochistan sitting with DC, Loralai



Walk against polio organized in district Tando Muhammad Khan



Provincial Minister, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa launching polio campaign



Mr. Nisar Ahmad Khan DCO Lakki Marwat presenting Polio Hero Award of Mr. Khalid Wahab (late) to Professor Gul Zamin



Religious leader speaking on the importance of polio drops in Karachi East



DC, Jamshoro administering polio drops to children



Polio Campaign in Thatha



DC, Karachi West launched polio campaign of April round



Mr. Faisal Sabzwari, MPA, Mr. Muzzamil Qureshi, MPA participating walk against polio



Provincial Minister Balochistan along with DC, Naseerabad launching polio round



Polio Campaign launched in district Jhang



Walk against polio



Religious focal person administering polio drops to children in polio campaign



DC, Hyderabad launching NIDs for April Round



Walk against polio in district Dir Upper



Polio campaign launched in Sukkur



Polio campaign awareness in Gadap Town, Karachi



DC Hari pur launching polio campaign



DCO Lakkī Marwat inaugurating NIDs April 2012



Polio Campaign launched in Dadu



Shahzada Muhiuddin, MNA participating in walk against polio



Provincial Minister, Mr. Muzaffar Ali Shujra speaking at the polio launch in Matiari



Polio campaign launched in Karachi East



Polio Campaign launched in Jhal Magsi



Polio drops being administered by a religious scholar in D. I. Khan

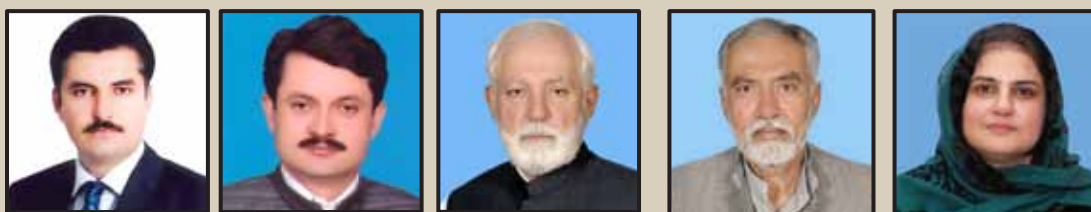
5. Engagement of Parliamentarians with media

A core team of Parliamentarians has been activated to highlight the issue of Polio Eradication Initiative (PEI) among their constituents through advocacy and media appearances.

Core Team of Parliamentarians



From Sindh **Syed Khurshid Ali Shah, Dr. Farooq Sattar, Senator Shahi Syed, Dr. Nadeem Ehsan** and **Ms. Fauzia Ejaz Khan** joined the cause.



Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi, Mr. Humayun Saif-ullah Khan, Mr. Malak Azmat Khan and **Mr. Pervaiz Khan** and **Senator Rubina Khalid** from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa formed the core team.



from Punjab include **Mr. Shakeel Awan, Syed Sumsam Ali Shah Bukhari** and **Ms. Tasneem Siddiqui**



Parliamentarians joined the core group from Balochistan include **Senator Maulana Ghafoor Haideri, Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch** and **Ms. Asiya Nasir**



From FATA **Mr. Hameedullah Jan Afridi**, **Mr. Akhondzada Chitan** and **Mr. Kamran Khan** participated



From Islamabad **Senator Saeeda Iqbal**, **Senator Osman Saifullah Khan** and **Dr. Tariq Fazal Ch** and formed the core group.

Liaison between the Parliamentarians and media to dispel the negative propaganda about polio vaccines was facilitated. Special reports and articles were printed in major newspapers of the country similarly stories and special reports were on-aired on electronic media.

A seminar on polio eradication - Polio free Pakistan

A seminar on polio eradication - Polio free Pakistan organized by the Mir Khalil ur Rahman Memorial Society (Jang Group of Newspapers) in collaboration with the Pakistan Paediatric Association (PPA) on 5th March 2012 at PC Hotel Lahore. National Coordinator Prime Minister Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell represented PM Polio Cell and he was one of the members of panel and delivered his remarks alongside responding to the questions raised by the audience. The activity was of critical importance as it was being held in the backdrop of an organized negative media campaign on vaccine safety and efficacy launched during February and March 2012.



Key questions brought out by the media were addressed to restore confidence of the public.

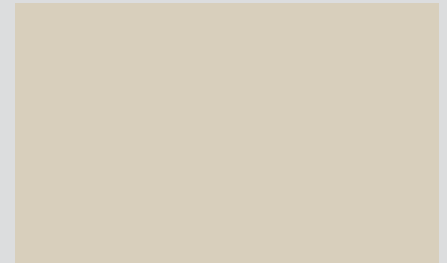
Press Conference by Parliamentarians

A joint press conference was addressed by the cross party Parliamentarians to express the unity on the polio eradication initiative followed by inaugural of polio campaign by administering of polio drops to the children on March 12, 2012 in National Press Club, Islamabad. The Parliamentarians who participated in the press conference included Dr. Tariq Fazal Ch, Mr. Perviaz Khan, Mr. Humayun Saifullah Khan, Mr. Akhondzada Chitan, Mr. Shakeel Awan, Ms. Fauzia Ejaz Khan, Ms. Asiya Nasir, Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali.



Seminar in collaboration with PFUJ on Awareness of Polio Disease in Media

A seminar was organized on the awareness of polio disease in media in collaboration with Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists-PFUJ. Representatives of PFUJ along with MPs addressed the media on the importance of awareness of this disease and the need to highlight the issues and challenges associated with polio campaigns through media. Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Mr. Hameedullah Jan Afridi, Mr. Nasir Ali Shah and Senator Rubina Khalid addressed the media while from PFUJ, Mr. Pervaiz Shaukat, Mr. Tahir Rathore, Mr. Waqar Satti and Mr. Bilal Dar discussed spoke at the seminar.



Radio Programmes of the Parliamentarians

Special live interviews of the Parliamentarians were broadcasted on FM 101 network ahead and during the SNIDs & NIDs.

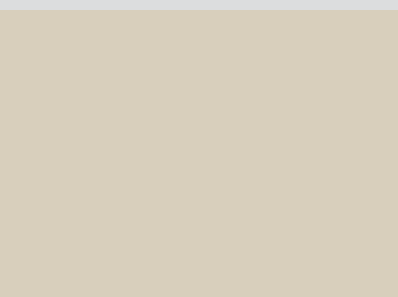


TV Programmes of the Parliamentarians

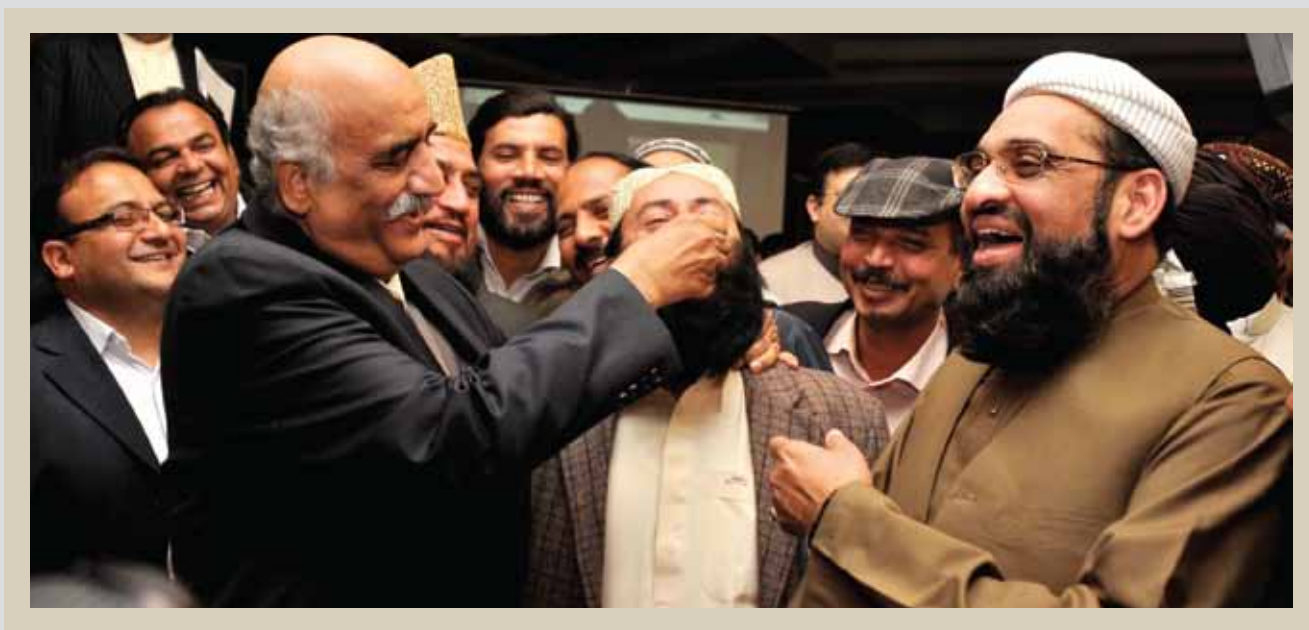
Special TV programmes were organized on polio eradication initiative during the SNIDs and NIDs. Parliamentarians were invited in these programmes to speak on the importance and urgency of the issue of polio crisis in the country.

Programmes were organized on state owned and private channels and Parliamentarians who participated in these programmes include.

Syed Sumsam Ali Shah Bukhari and Senator Saeeda Iqbal, Senator Rubina Khalid, Ms. Tasneem Siddiqui, MNA, Dr. Donya Aziz, MNA, Dr. Tahira Aurengzeb, MNA, Dr. Tariq Fazal Ch, Mr. Hameedullah Jan Afridi, MNA, Mr. Humayun Saifullah Khan, MNA, Mr. Akhondzada Chitan, Mr. Shakeel Awan, MNA and Mr. Moazzam Ali Jatoy, Minister of State for National Food Security and Research



6. Engagement with Religious Scholars and Ulema



A Seminar on Polio for Religious Leaders

Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring Cell has established partnership with the Ministry of Religious Affairs to seek support from religious leaders. Four seminars have been scheduled with religious leaders under the chairmanship of the Federal Minister for Religious Affairs Syed Khursheed Ahmad Shah. First seminar was held in January 2012 at Lahore.

The second seminar was chaired by the Federal Minister for Religious Affairs on 11th March 2012 at Karachi Sindh where around 300 religious leaders of Sindh province participated. Prime Minister's Polio Cell was represented by Dr. Altaf Bosan. He briefed the audience on current situation of polio, challenges, polio drops important in light of fatwas given by religious leaders of the world and institutes.



Fatwa Booklets

40,000 booklets containing religious edicts or fatwas from 27 schools of thoughts and religious seminaries across the world advocating for Polio Eradication in the context of duties of parents towards their children were printed with support of UNICEF and distributed to over 430 ulema and Mashaikh besides 1,000 social mobilisers and staff of the provincial and district health departments to deal with refusals by families or communities based on misconceived religious notions.



A one day Ulema Conference was held in District Dir Upper on the awareness of Polio on 24th March, 2012.

7. Collaboration with Partners

Partnership with Rotary International

On 14th April, 2012 a ceremony was held at Sheraton Hotel, Karachi for handing over 45,000 vaccine carriers by Rotary Club where Speaker, National Assembly, Dr. Fehmida Mirza was the Chief Guest.

Speaker National Assembly Dr. Fehmida Mirza thanked Rotary International for providing 45,000 vaccine carriers. After that Aziz Memon & Iqbal Qureshi presented one vaccine carrier to the Chief Guest Dr. Fehmida Mirza. Many key members of the provincial assembly of Sindh Rotarians were also attended the ceremony and the event was covered by all TV Channels and newspapers.



Session on Polio Eradication in Seminars of Rotary International at Karachi and Islamabad

Karachi: Rotary International organized seminar of Rotary Club in Karachi and special session was arranged on polio eradication on 17th March 2012 at 2pm where speeches were delivered by experts including Dr. Altaf Bosan, National Coordinator, Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell and responded to questions raised by the participants of the seminar.



Islamabad: Participation in Rotary Club’s exclusive polio session was made by the Parliamentarians on March 31, 2012. MPs who participated include Senator Saeeda Iqbal, Mr. Pervaiz Khan and Malak Azmat Khan.

Rotary International Pakistan PolioPlus Committee and Coca-Cola Pakistan

Rotary International Pakistan PolioPlus Committee and Coca-Cola Pakistan are joining forces to build awareness for Rotary’s polio eradication campaign and emphasize the importance of polio immunizations nationwide. Coca-Cola Beverages Pakistan will imprint an awareness message on all Coca-Cola bottle labels in the country, and will upload a Polio ringtone message on their call center answering machine. In addition, the company will provide billboard sites for Polio National Immunization Day messages, and signs to be placed in shops within districts where the wild polio virus has been reported. The company will also provide Coke vans to transport polio vaccines.



Rotary Polio Booth at Exit/Entry Points

For NIDs Rotary put up two polio booths in GADAP UC4 for 4 days and staff was available to give drops to street children. On the Super highway going to Hyderabad Rotary have placed two 20 feet Polio Vaccine Containers with the collaboration of WHO staff.



Partnership with National Highways and Motorways Police

National Highways and Motorways Police joined hands to fight against polio. Mr. Farooq Azam took personal interest in carrying out the polio awareness activities and lead all activities related to polio awareness and anti-polio vaccine campaigns. NH & Motorways Police organized Polio Vaccination Campaign at Motorway Toll Plazas at Islamabad, Peshawar and Charsadda. Where 350 community elders participated in the awareness campaign against Polio and helped administer Polio vaccines to children. The NH&MP co-hosted an Anti Polio Ceremony at the Peshawar High Court which was presided over by the Chief Justice Peshawar High Court on April 21, 2012. NH & Motorways Police under the leadership of Mr. Farooq Azam also carried out many other polio awareness activities ahead and during SNIDs and NIDs.



SH&MP A.S.E. Farooq Azam speech at peshawar high court regarding polio campaign.



Chief Guest Shehnaz Wazir Ali



Speaker KPK Assembly Give Polio Drops to Kid

Partnership with Baitul Maal

Collaborating with Baitul Maal, a special polio camp was set up for the children of Baitul Maal and polio drops were administered to the children by the Parliamentarians at the concluding session of the sports gala of children in Sports Complex, Islamabad on March 25. Parliamentarians who participated included: Senator Rubina Khalid, Begum Nasim Akhtar Ch, Ms. Rubina Qaimkhani, Ms. Tasneem Siddiqui, Mr. Akhondzada Chitan, Mr. Kamran Khan, Mr. Malak Azmat Khan. Similarly Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal, Federal Minister for CADD, along with Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Prime Minister’s focal person on Polio, Mr. Zamurud Khan, MD Bait ul Maal, Ms. Rahela Baloch, Minister of State for Science and Technology, Senator Abbas Khan Afridi, Minister of State for Commerce, Senator Dr. Saeeda Iqbal, Senator Rubina Khalid and Senator Saleh Shah Qureshi administered polio drops to children of Sweet Home, Barakoh Chapter of Baitul Maal on April 25, 2012 .



8. Interactions and Review Meetings

Meetings of the National Steering Committee

The National Steering Committee on Polio regularly held in the Federal EPI, These meetings are being held on weekly basis every Tuesday where AFP surveillance, performance in last campaign and preparation for next campaign and other relevant issues are being discussed and agreed for action.

Meeting with the Commissioners of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

The Secretary Health Khyber Pakhtunkhwa called a meeting on 9th March 2012 with all Commissioners of the province where the results of last campaign were shared with them and they were advised to focus on indicators set in the augmented plan in polio round scheduled from 23-25th April 2012. Representing PM Polio Cell, Dr. Altaf Bosan, National Coordinator Prime Minister Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell participated in the meeting to discuss the issues in detail.

Meeting with visiting mission of Independent Monitoring Board on Polio

Briefing was given to IMB Mission on 15th March 2012 at the PM's Polio Monitoring Cell. Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali Prime Minister's Focal Person on Polio and Dr. Azra Pechuho, member National Task Force, also attended the meeting alongside Dr. Altaf Bosan, National Coordinator Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell and Mr. Mazhar Nisar, Health education Advisor.

Review meeting on implementation status of augmented plan with the Chief Commissioner Islamabad and his team

On special instruction of the PM's Polio Focal Person Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, a meeting with district administration Islamabad was held on 15th March where progress was reviewed and instructions were issued to improve the quality of work and fulfill the preparatory indicators of NEAP. A special briefing was arranged on campaign situation in Chief Commissioner's office. Representing the MPs Dr. Tariq Fazal Ch, Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Senator Osman Saifullah Khan and Senator Saeeda Iqbal participated in the briefing. Dr. Altaf Bosan and Mr. Mazhar Nisar represented PM Polio Cell.

Meeting with the DC East, Karachi

Evening meeting of district East Karachi in the DC office was attended by representative of PM Polio Cell Dr. Altaf Bosan, National Coordination, Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell on 17th March 2012 and observed the performance of all towns of the district including Gulshan -e- Iqbal Town. Briefing was also given by DC which showed very clear improvement in the district. District East Polio Control Room was also visited and found appropriate as per augmented plan.

Meeting with the Joint Mission of World Bank and JICA

First Meeting with joint mission of World Bank and JICA was held on 19th March 2012 at PM's Polio Monitoring Cell and discussed on current support for polio and future strategy. The mission showed concern over the financial mechanism already in place for the support to the districts directly from WHO and UNICEF for polio campaign activities in the field. However, it was suggested that a joint meeting may be chaired by the Secretary IPC on this matter. The World Bank is also interested to support Pakistan for routine immunization services. Dr. Altaf Bosan, National Coordinator Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell highlighted the importance of the proposal for Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and requested Secretary IPC to forward the proposal to Economic Affairs Division for negotiation with IsDB.

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Meeting of the Provincial Task Force of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

A meeting of the Provincial Task Force for Polio Eradication in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) was convened in Peshawar on 30th March, 2012. The meeting was chaired by the Governor KP and FATA and co-chaired by Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, the member of the National Task Force for Polio Eradication. The meeting was attended by the Dr. Altaf Bosan, National Coordinator, Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell provincial political, administrative and health leadership and all the Commissioners, District Coordination Officers (DCOs) and the Political Agents (PAs). The meeting thoroughly reviewed the results of the March SNIDs and agreed on the way forward for April NIDs.

Meeting with Acting President, Senator Nayyar Hussain Bukhari

A detailed meeting was held under the chairmanship of Acting President, Senator Nayyar Hussain Bukhari in Parliament House on March 28, 2012. The meeting was attended by the administration of Islamabad including Chairman CDA, Commissioner ICT and all partners. Acting President gave instructions to make Islamabad a model city for polio eradication initiative.



Meeting with District Management of Sindh to review SNIDs and preparation of NIDs

Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Prime Minister's focal person on polio, Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, Chairperson National Monitoring Committee, Dr. Altaf Bosan, National Coordinator, Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Coordination along with Health Secretary Sindh attended meetings with District management Sindh to review SNIDs and NIDs on April 2 and 11, 2012 respectively.



Meeting with Khyber Agency Surgeon with Mr. Hameedullah Jan Afridi, MNA of Khyber Agency

A meeting was organized to review the issues and challenges of implementing polio campaigns in Khyber Agency. Meeting was chaired by Mr. Hameedullah Jan Afridi, MNA of Khyber Agency while Agency Surgeon, agency administration and representatives of UNICEF, WHO and Prime Minister Polio Monitoring Cell also participated.

Meeting with Members of Provincial Assembly of Balochistan

Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Prime Minister's Focal Person on Polio and Dr. Altaf Bosan participated in meeting organized by Rotary Club, Quetta Chapter on April 09, 2012. A large number of members of the Provincial Assembly of Balochistan also attended the meeting. The participants of the meetings discussed the ground issues and challenges being faced by the provincial management in implementation of the polio programme successfully.

Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali and Dr. Altaf Bosan also attended a briefing organized by provincial EPI officials to brief the state of preparation of next polio campaign.

9. Field Visit

Monitoring visit in March round

SNIDs in Sindh province was held from 14 to 16th March two days later then scheduled due to vaccinators boycott to press their demands. Finally, the vaccinators' demand was considered by the Government and announced to hold campaign from 14th March. The National Coordinator PM's Polio Monitoring Cell along with IMB mission visited UC-4 Gadap and monitored the performance of area In-charges. The work of area In-charges was not satisfactory as required and those were advised to focus on proper selection of team members, their training and modify their micro plans as per situation of the area. A special meeting was arranged at 4pm on 16th March 2012 with area In-charges of UC-4.

Monitoring visit in April round by the National Coordinator, PM's Polio Monitoring Cell

23rd April_ Evening meeting of UC 05 Gadap Town was attended at Mullah Hassan Village Gadap town. The THO Dr. Ansari, ACM, UCPWs, DHCO, N Stopper, UCMOs, and AICs were present. Tally sheets were checked and analyzed by UN staff. All the Area In charges were found trained and aware of the situation as town is not performing well and whole world is concerned about the poor performance of the town. The THO and UN staff were also deeply involved and shared the issue observed during the first day and most of issues were solved. The issue of mobility of teams as the area is widely spread and sparsely populated was highlighted. It was also highlighted that the per diem to the teams is not being released well in time that issue may be tackled at provincial and federal level. Union Council 04 work was delayed due to training of newly appointed CHWs for two days.

24th April_ National Coordinator Polio Monitoring Cell visited the Deputy Commissioner West office and appreciated the overall performance by the Deputy Commissioner in the high risk UC of Baldia , Site and Kiamari towns. Deputy Commissioner also briefed that he is going to involve the builders of the towns under district west in the campaign by getting support in terms of mobility of teams and small camps and gathering /Festival for advocacy during the pre-campaigns activities. In District west work was started one day before the scheduled date i.e. Sunday, 22/04/2012, and that was reported that most of the areas were not monitored on the first day. Visited THO Baldia office and met with the THO, WHO PEO, UCMO and monitored the team support center. Over all location and visibility was ok but the vaccinator was less active and found not writing the name of children vaccinated, all the antigens and vitamin-A capsules. The tally sheets of the two days' work was not present at the TSC, WHO PEO requested to ensure the availability of tally sheets and these must be analyzed daily specially for missed children, refusals and vaccine use and tour plan of AICs were also not present.

25th April_ Met with the THO Kiamari and shared the three days provincial control room observations reported by the field staff like in UC 01, teams left early and not recorded the missing children on back of tally sheets and in UC 05 during house to house monitoring , 13 missed children found and vaccinated by WHO PEO. The area of UC 05 also checked along with the provincial focal person and THO, refusal school Kiran Educational Academy, Mohammadi colony, having 35 children less than 05 years, all children was vaccinated. During street survey 05 children including one chronic refusal since last year also covered. The area labelled as very poor and THO directed the UCMO and AICs of UC 05 for redoing and stopping of the payment of AIC and UCMO. During the visit of team support center Berma colony, team no 03 & 04 were absent and UCNO cleared that they will start work at 1.00 pm after they return from matric examination. Over all report of Kiamari town is unsatisfactory and THO requested to ensure that all the area of UC 05 and 01 must rechecked and ensure all children are vaccinated with 02 drops of OPV.

10. Current Financial Assistance & Funding Gap

Since 2003 procurement of WHO pre-qualified polio vaccines was done for a total value of approx. USD 207 million. Vaccines are procured under the current WB agreement (Add. Financing for 3rd Partnership) up to July 2012. With the new JICA agreement procurement of vaccines up to January 2013 is secured.

Given the current situation with funding constraints for the continuation of the Polio Eradication Programme, a proposal, outlining the key activities within the key components of Supplementary Immunization Activities (incl. OPV procurement), Social Mobilization, Surveillance and Technical Assistance as well as projected funding requirements, was developed for 2013 to 2015 in collaboration between PM's Polio Cell, EPI, WHO and UNICEF.

Upon request the proposal was submitted by MoIPC to EAD and recently submitted to IsDB. In parallel other donors like The World Bank and JICA also expressed their keen interest in supporting the Polio Eradication Programme for 2013 to 2015. As regards the procurement, the requirements for Oral Polio Vaccines are based on the projected SIAs – 2013 (4+4), 2014 (4+2) and 2015 (2+4). The funds required for procurement of OPV are estimated to USD 111 million for a three year period.

MoUs	Period	USD value
WB - 1st/2nd Partnership	2003-2008	88 million
WB - 3rd Partnership	2008-2011	78 million
WB - Add. Financing 3rd P.	2011-2012	41 million
JICA - Polio Eradication	2012-2013*	30 million
Total funds	2003-2013*	237 million

Note: 2013 funds only cover January NID

In view of the detailed discussion on inclusion of routine immunization in the Polio Project proposal and the donor’s timeline with a minimum of nine (9) months, there is an immediate need for securing funds for a bridge over period to ensure that vaccine will be available for the planned campaigns up to including July 2013. This would require an “advance” of estimated USD 24 million to be made available by no later than end October 2012. Given the lead times for negotiations and clearance of agreements, funds commitment from potential donors should be available by July 2012 and negotiations started.

Current situation of vaccines & intervention required from GoP authorities

Given that bOPV is a key vaccine being used for the majority of the planned campaigns with subsequent increase of demand for bOPV, it is important as a risk mitigation measure for the timely implementation of the SIAs to ensure that multiple sources of WHO Pre-qualified bOPV vaccine are available. In this regard the Government of Pakistan and the relevant authorities should in the interest of the Polio Eradication Programme ensure that multiple sources of each vaccine type of OPV is licensed and registered in country. Though MoIPC has played a key role in having this matter resolved, the matter is currently not yet finalized and poses thus a serious risk for the upcoming SIAs as of July 2012 in order to be able to utilize the required vaccine type from a programmatic point of view in the campaigns.

11. Recommendations of Technical Advisory Group

Technical Advisory Group

Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on polio was held from 21st to 22nd March at Islamabad. Federal and Provincial Responsible attended the meeting and presented their respective provinces as per agenda of the meeting. Dr. Altaf Bosan presented the status of implementation on the recommendations of the last TAG meeting held in March 2011. Detailed recommendations of the Technical Advisory Group are attached are below.

Province-specific recommendations

Recommendations: Balochistan

- Geographical priority: Pishin, Quetta, Killa Abdullah, other high risk districts
- Operations:
 - Community & age appropriate vaccinators
 - Transit strategy – permanent teams in key transit points
 - Guard against re-establishment of failed systems
 - Build capacity of newly appointed medical officers
- Community priorities: Minority, migrant and mobile communities

Recommendations: FATA

- Geographical priorities: Khyber, North Waziristan
- Operations:
 - Transit strategy – permanent teams in key transit points especially to and from Khyber & NWZ & AFG
 - Opportunistic strategies & readiness to act fast
 - Expanded age groups – in all newly accessed areas / populations: can go to < 15 years or whole population
 - Short interval rounds for newly accessed areas / populations
 - Coupling OPV with other interventions, Quality activity in accessible areas

Recommendations: Khyber Pakthunkwa

- Geographical priority: Peshawar, Nowshera, other high risk districts esp in southern KP
- Operations:
 - Appropriate & motivated vaccinators
 - Using partnerships to support implementation
 - Transit strategy – permanent teams in key transit points esp FATA
- Community priorities: Mobile populations Displaced & refugee populations

Recommendations: Sindh

- Geographical priority: Gadap Town, other high risk towns & districts
- Operations:
 - Community appropriate vaccinators esp in Gadap & HRDs
 - Using partnerships to support implementation
 - Transit strategy – permanent teams in key transit points esp to & from Baluchistan and FATA
- Community priorities: migrant communities, especially Pushtun speaking nomadic communities

Recommendations: Punjab

- Geographical priorities: High risk southern districts
Key urban risks: Lahore, Faisalabad, Rawalpindi
- Operations:
 - Transit strategy – permanent teams in key transit points
- Community priorities: Migrant communities, especially Pushtun speaking, Other mobile communities including nomads

Recommendations: Islamabad

- Operations:
 - Transit strategy – permanent teams in key transit points
 - Regular revision of microplans
- Community priorities: Slums & migrant communities, especially Pushtun speaking Other mobile communities

Recommendations: AJK & Gilgit Baltistan

- Overall priority: maintain high immunity
- Operational priorities:
 - High quality SIAs
 - Strong routine immunization programmes
- Community priorities:
 - Migrant & mobile communities

12. Regular activities of the Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell

Daily media monitoring and circulation to all concerned

Electronic and press media is monitored on daily basis, highlighting the coverage of the polio related stories and circulated to all concerned stakeholders for reviewing their media strategy and communication plans on day to day basis.

Fortnightly Polio Alert E-Newsletter

A new initiative has been taken to issue electronic Newsletter, Polio Alert covering polio situation in Pakistan, global scenario, real stories, and news of upcoming events to all media reporters and stakeholders.

Polio Control Cell for SNIDs and NIDs Round

A Polio Control Cell was established in EPI building during the SNIDs and NIDs. Telephone operators attended calls and complaints and conveyed these messages to the relevant authorities for immediate actions. The toll free number is 0800-88588. Over 3,000 calls were received and responded to with action taken by the EDO Health concerned in cover-

ing missed areas and children during the March Campaign whereas over 4,500 calls were received and responded to during the April 2012 NIDs. Polio Control Cells were also established at provincial level .

Polio Alert Text

A special text message was sent to all Chief Secretaries, Deputy Commissioners, Chief Commissioner Islamabad and Political Agents of all Agencies of FATA on 20th April, 2012 with directions from the Prime Minister that every effort be made to ensure that preparation for the campaign is of the optimal level and no child is missed.

Mass Media Campaign

A robust mass media campaign was aired by UNICEF Pakistan providing information to the parents and other stakeholders on the dates of the polio rounds and the need to ensure that every child under 5 years of age is immunized. Television and Radio Spots, endorsements/testimonials of eminent pediatricians and Pakistan Medical Association, news tickers and scrolls were aired on 41 TV channels and 46 Radio channels including regional language, terrestrial and satellite channels beamed across Pakistan.



8. Interactions and Review Meetings

Meetings of the National Steering Committee

The National Steering Committee on Polio regularly held in the Federal EPI, These meetings are being held on weekly basis every Tuesday where AFP surveillance, performance in last campaign and preparation for next campaign and other relevant issues are being discussed and agreed for action.

Meeting with the Commissioners of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

The Secretary Health Khyber Pakhtunkhwa called a meeting on 9th March 2012 with all Commissioners of the province where the results of last campaign were shared with them and they were advised to focus on indicators set in the augmented plan in polio round scheduled from 23-25th April 2012. Representing PM Polio Cell, Dr. Altaf Bosan, National Coordinator Prime Minister Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell participated in the meeting to discuss the issues in detail.

Meeting with visiting mission of Independent Monitoring Board on Polio

Briefing was given to IMB Mission on 15th March 2012 at the PM's Polio Monitoring Cell. Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali Prime Minister's Focal Person on Polio and Dr. Azra Pechuho, member National Task Force, also attended the meeting alongside Dr. Altaf Bosan, National Coordinator Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell and Mr. Mazhar Nisar, Health education Advisor.

Review meeting on implementation status of augmented plan with the Chief Commissioner Islamabad and his team

On special instruction of the PM's Polio Focal Person Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, a meeting with district administration Islamabad was held on 15th March where progress was reviewed and instructions were issued to improve the quality of work and fulfill the preparatory indicators of NEAP. A special briefing was arranged on campaign situation in Chief Commissioner's office. Representing the MPs Dr. Tariq Fazal Ch, Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Senator Osman Saifullah Khan and Senator Saeeda Iqbal participated in the briefing. Dr. Altaf Bosan and Mr. Mazhar Nisar represented PM Polio Cell.

Meeting with the DC East, Karachi

Evening meeting of district East Karachi in the DC office was attended by representative of PM Polio Cell Dr. Altaf Bosan, National Coordination, Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring and Coordination Cell on 17th March 2012 and observed the performance of all towns of the district including Gulshan -e- Iqbal Town. Briefing was also given by DC which showed very clear improvement in the district. District East Polio Control Room was also visited and found appropriate as per augmented plan.

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**Prime Minister's
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