



Labour Education Foundation

Community Literacy
&
Facilitation Centres

A project in collaboration with STS International Solidarity

Activity Report

January – March 2013

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Introduction

Labour Education Foundation (LEF) is implementing various projects for the promotion of labour rights in different parts of the country. Main objectives include organizing, capacitating workers, advocating for their rights and providing informed input to trade unions and various civil society organizations in relation with workers' rights.

LEF initiated the project titled "Community Literacy and Facilitation Centres" (CLFC) in 2012. The basic objectives of the project is to develop an educated resourceful and organized body of workers from trade unions, the formal and informal labour sectors, who will be capable of contributing to strengthening democracy, peace and workers' rights in Pakistan.

Given below were the main actions taken during the reported three months:

- Examinations
- Result ceremonies
- Orientation sessions
- Shifting of two centres
- Monitoring visits
- Teachings aid supplies
- Teachers' monthly meetings
- Teachers reports
- Central Management Committee (CMCs) meetings
- Changes in staff
- Participation in Faiz Peace Festival
- Achievements
- Challenges

Examinations

After the completion of teaching period in the year 2012, examinations were taken in January 2013 in five centres (The examination in Jallo Moore Centre was held in December 2012). Question papers were prepared by teachers and Project Coordinator. The question papers were composed and delivered to the centres. Date sheet was prepared by teachers and Project Coordinator and the schedule was shared with learners. Monitoring visits were arranged by Project Coordinator at the suggested examination dates.

Result ceremonies

Result ceremonies were organized by LEF in the month of January 2013 in six centres. 147 learners appeared in the examination and just 3 out of total numbers were not successful. 30 learners could not appear in the exams due to different reasons such as shifting of the learners from the particular area, death in families and other family related matters. Certificates were awarded to those learners who passed the examination. Trophies were awarded to the learners with first, second and third positions. This activity encouraged the learners and motivated them more.

Orientation Sessions

Objective

Orientation sessions are essential part of activities to enhance their knowledge base about workers' rights, to promote communication skills and confidence within the learners. From January to March 2013, 23 orientation sessions were conducted in six centres. Total participants were 619 including 290 males and 329 females. These orientation sessions were the basic source of awareness about social, political and economic issues which Pakistan is facing. LEF staff of the other projects along with Program Coordinator and Social Mobilizer conducted session on the following topics. For number of participants see **Annex A**

Topics of the orientations sessions

- 6 sessions to understand gender issues
- 6 sessions on the importance of education
- 5 sessions on home based workers problems
- 6 sessions on international women's day

Results achieved

Through these orientation sessions, learners discussed the issues related to their daily life in terms of gender dimensions. They were able to understand the important role that home based workers are playing in the economy, plight of home based workers and reasons behind their issues. The discussion about women's day provided them an opportunity to understand the importance of international initiatives and that struggling for women's rights is an important issue. Learners actively participated and asked relevant questions from the facilitators.

During the gender awareness sessions, at the initial stage, some participants were not agreeing but due to discussion and some realistic examples from their daily lives, they were agreed that men and women have equal rights as human beings.

Shifting of two centers

In Moman Pura and Jallo Moore, the LEF staff and teachers were not able to find enough learners to continue these centers at the same locations despite several field visits in the month of January 2013 at different places.

Two new areas Dayal House and Moman Pura Dubai Chouk were identified as suitable places to offer the centres. In these areas, there were lots of home based and domestic workers interested in having reading and writing skills. Both centres were shifted in the month of January 2013 to new places and functioning well.

Monitoring visits

13 monitoring visits were arranged for examining centres performance and mobilizing learners in different areas.

Teaching aid supplies

Teaching aids and equipment were delivered to six centres in March 2013. It includes led pencils, hard board, loose papers and other relevant material. A list of these items was prepared and handed over to the teachers for record and documentation. Detail of the supplies is given in **Annex B**

Teachers monthly meetings

During the period Jan to March 2013, 3 monthly teachers meeting were organized in which 6 teachers, Program Coordinator and Social Mobilizer were present.

Objectives

- Sharing of ideas to improve the performance
- Identification of ways for solving problems if occurred
- Reinforcing commitment to work towards a common goal
- Following a common strategy to meet the objectives

Agenda

- Progress of the centres.
- Teachers report about the strength of learners
- Functioning of CMC
- Regularity of learners
- Hurdles and complications in motivating community

Proceedings

- Project Coordinator explained the objectives of the meetings and emphasized the importance of developing on-going and practical links with all teachers and facilitation for further plans.
- Teachers were asked to present their monthly report to share with each other.
- Teachers were taught how to work on report writing.
- Social Mobilizer had a discussion with participants that how we can improve our work more and make this project a success.
- Contracts of teachers for 2013 were read out and they were asked if they have any inquiries.
- Teachers were told to maintain time table and other activity reports properly.
- Teachers were asked to organize two meetings with CMC members in a month
- Teachers were made responsible to organize orientation session

Teachers Reports

Teachers presented monthly progress reports of centres in the meeting. Teachers were given copies of report pattern prepared by LEF for presenting monthly reports. Below are the summarized reports of each centre:

Mustafabad Centre

- Class was initiated with 22 learners on 1st February.
- Survey was a regular activity in the area for identification and selection of the learners by the teacher.

- LEF and its project CLFC was introduced to the learners.
- Urdu and English alphabets learning started.
- Drawing started.

Yousaf Park Centre

- Teacher was endeavoring for enough learners but it was difficult to meet the target.
- Finding another proper place for centre was very difficult as the land lady refused to give LEF building any more.
- LEF in reviewing to shift this centre at some other locality. Possibilities of shifting this centre at Adda Chabeel are under consideration. Field visits are going on in that area and the final decision will be taken in the mid of April.

Youhanabad Centre

- From 15th of February regular classes were started in this centre.
- Field work is going on for achieving target because there are only 22 learners.
- Book one has been started.
- English and Urdu names of vegetables, fruits and animals have been started taking in account the interest of learners to learn the word from their daily life.
- All learners can write their name in English and Urdu as well.

Sutter Mill Centre

- Field work is going on to motivate learners as there are only 25 learners at this time.
- Old learners are very active and helping in mobilizing the community for next phase.
- Learners are interested to learn different English words which are used in daily communication.
- Learners in this centre take keen interest in politics and like to do debate on this topic.

Dayal House Centre

- From 1st of January regular classes were started in this centre.
- CMC is actively working to support the teacher.
- The teacher introduced Urdu and English alphabets through tone of voice.
- Urdu alphabets were started and after a gap turned to English alphabets.

Moman Pura (Dobai Chock) Centre

- Book one has been started.
- CMC is in the process of formation.
- 31 learners are very active and motivated to learn about workers' rights.
- Learners want to be the part of workers movements.

Meetings with Central Management Committees

During January to March, 11 meetings were conducted with the members of CMCs in all centres. These committees are consisting of 8 members including male and female. The basic purpose of these meetings was to discuss the problems and upcoming plans of the centres. Discussions were made on the progress of the centres and what techniques should be adopted for mobilizing the community.

Objective

The main purpose of the creation of CMCs is to improve the effectiveness and appropriateness of the regulatory system and ensure its continued development.

Decisions

- CMCs will help the teachers for mobilizing the community

- Two meeting with CMC members will be arranged in each month
- Teachers will take help from CMC members in any situation and condition

Staff changes

- Salman Ali Social Mobilizer resigned. He has got another job. At the moment Project Coordinator is able to handle the field work as well which was the responsibility of the Social Mobilizer. LEF management is thinking of changing the job description of Project Coordinator to include more fieldwork so that the centers are properly monitored and hiring of another staff member to work in office on sharing basis with other projects for reporting and support in managing the project affairs.
- Moman Pura centre was shifted at a nearest place (Moman pura Dobai Chock). While shifting, it was decided that Sidra Pervaiz will continue teaching but her performance was not up to the mark so she was replaced. She was informed on 30th of February 2013 and replaced on 1st April.
- An experienced female activist Urooj Khaliq applied and was selected for teaching in Moman Pura centre.
- Yousuf Park center is in process to be shifted to Adda Chabeel area, as the enrolment of learners for new session was not satisfactory in this area. Teacher of Yousaf park center informed that he will not be able to continue his job in case the centre is being shifted in other area. Leaflets have been pasted in the area of Adda Chabeel for hiring a new teacher.

Learners Participation in Faiz Peace Festival

Faiz Ahmed Faiz was a revolutionary poet of Indo-Pak. Some progressive peoples organize a festival every year. The festival was organized on February 17, 2013 at the Open Air Theatre at the Jinnah Garden to paying tribute to the late revolutionary poet. Over two thousand people, including the working class, civil society, progressive political parties and 94 learners participated in this event. The programme was divided into two sections: a poetry recital session and a musical session. See the details about the number of learners in **Annex C**

Achievements

- About 129 learners are having education in five centres.
- 23 orientation sessions have been conducted with these learners.
- Skill centre is functioning in Shahdarah centre on self-help bases.

Challenges

- Selection of suitable places for two centres (Moman Pura and Yousaf Park) remained a challenge.
- Mobilizing communities regarding the importance of literacy takes time.
- To maintain the numbers and interest of learners is an ongoing job.
- Maintenance of center set-up and creating an environment of class room.
- In community mostly learners are living on rented places so there permanent link with center is not much effective.
- Regular meetings with CMC members is an issue due to different timings of their work.

Annex A

Orientation Sessions

Center Name	Total Session	Orientation	Total Participants	Female	Male
Shahdarah Mustafabad Center	4		120	114	6
Youhanabad Center	5		114	76	38
Moman Pura Center	5		157	11	146
Sutter Mill Center	3		70	5	65
Shahdarah Yousaf Park Center	1		17	9	8
Dayal House Center	5		141	114	27

Annex B

Teachings Aid Supplies

SR. NO.	ITEM	QUANTITY	CATEGORY
1	Towel	1	CLEANING MATERIAL
2	Soap dish	1	CLEANING MATERIAL
3	mosquito spray	1	CLEANING MATERIAL
4	Soap	1	CLEANING MATERIAL
5	Sweeping Instruments (Each)	1	CLEANING MATERIAL
6	Hard Board	35	EDUCTAION MATERIAL
7	Diary for teacher	1	EDUCTAION MATERIAL
8	Duster	1	EDUCTAION MATERIAL
9	Eraser	12	EDUCTAION MATERIAL
10	Sharpeneer	12	EDUCTAION MATERIAL
11	Pencils	12	EDUCTAION MATERIAL
12	Loose papers English (Bundle)	1	EDUCTAION MATERIAL
13	Loose papers Urdu (Bundle)	1	EDUCTAION MATERIAL
14	Glass for learners	7	INVENTORY
15	Mug for Teacher	1	INVENTORY
16	Bucket	1	INVENTORY
13	Tray	1	INVENTORY
14	Plates	6	INVENTORY
15	Gas Cylinder	1	INVENTORY
16	Lock	1	INVENTORY
	Total	98	

Annex C

Participation of Learners in Faiz Peace Festival

Center name	Total	Male	Female
Sutermill	13	10	3
Youhanabad	16	7	9
Dayal House	7	3	4
Mustafa abad	11	5	6
Moman Pura	31	6	25
Yousaf park	15	8	7