

SHEHRI – CITIZENS FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment was formed in 1988 (based in Karachi City), as a non-political, noncommercial, non-governmental organization (under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860) by a group of concerned citizens to provide the citizens with a platform to effectively voice their concerns in determining their future and taking action in arresting the deterioration in the their living environment and propose reform with a view to improve the same. Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment is now fighting at the forefront of various issues of public concern related to the environment. The organization is actively engaged in areas of work like public advocacy and Public Interest Litigation (PIL), Right to Information (RTI), Freedom of Information (FOI), Good Governance, Community Policing and Police Reforms, Nature Conservation, Corporate Social Accountability, and last but not the least Institutional Reforms.

Objectives

- Establishment of an aware and pro-active civil society, good governance, transparency and rule of law
- Promotion of research and documentation, dialogue and influence of public policies
- Setting up an effective and representative local government system, e.g. capacity building and training
- Observance of basic human rights in society

Management

The core decision making body of the organization is the 'Managing Committee' (MC) that is answerable to the 'General Body' members. The MC is a volunteer body. The members of the MC hold office for a period of two (02) years, after which there is a fresh election. Annual Audit is conducted regularly and the audit report is duly shared with all members.

Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment

88-R, Block-2, P.E.C.H.S., Karachi

Tel.(021) 34530646, 34382298

Email. info@shehri.org Website: www.shehri.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/shehri.citizens

Twitter: @ShehriCBE



Consultative Session

“Water Issues in Karachi”

کراچی میں پانی کے مسائل

Organized by

Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment

in collaboration with

Friedrich Naumann
STIFTUNG **FÜR DIE FREIHEIT**

Friday, 25th November 2016 (4:00 pm)

Movenpick (Sheraton) Hotel, Karachi

SHEHRI-CBE: 88-R/2, P.E.C.H.S., Karachi. Tel. (021) 34530646, 34382298

E-mail: info@shehri.org Website: www.shehri.org

Programme

Time	Contents
4:00 – 4:15 pm	Registration
4:15 – 4:30 pm	Amber Alibhai General Secretary, Shehri-CBE <i>Welcome Address and overview of Shehri interaction in the water issue</i>
4:30 – 4:45 pm	Engr. Pervez Sadiq Member Institution of Engineers Pakistan <i>“Water issue in Karachi : Citizens Perspective”</i>
4:45 – 5:00 pm	Father Bernard Y. Bhatti OFM Parish Priest, St. Philip’s Parish, Gulshan-e-Iqbal <i>“Citizens dilemma to get water”</i>
5:00 – 5:20 pm	Tea Break
5:20 – 5:35 pm	Mr. Misbahuddin Farid Managing Director, KWSB <i>“Role of KWSB in providing water to the citizens”</i>
5:35 – 5:50 pm	Khurram Sher Zaman Member Sindh Assembly <i>“the future development of Karachi in relation to water availability and what plans should be put in place”</i>
5:50 – 6:50 pm	<i>General Discussions/Questions & Answers</i>
6:50 – 7:00 pm	<i>Conclusion</i> <i>Vote of Thanks</i>
Dinner	

Freshwater is diminishing the world over and Pakistan is amongst the most water-stressed countries, Karachi- the metropolitan city of Pakistan, having a population of almost 20 million is simply falling short of potable water.

Karachi receives 650 million gallons per day from its sources but unfortunately the poor, inefficient system is only able to supply half or may be less of that quantity to the people through pipes. The adverse consequences have to be borne by the citizens of the city in terms of exposure to health hazards, decline in the quality of water and by being forced to purchase water at costly rates from an unregulated and undesirable ‘water tanker’ service.

The water sector in Karachi faces a number of problems, both in terms of quality and quantity of the water supply. There are many areas in the city which face severe shortage of piped water while in some areas it would appear that an ‘artificial’ water supply shortage has been created. That gives rise to the supply of water through the water tankers sourcing water from a number of hydrants located in the city – a practice that is neither well documented nor transparent. Supply of contaminated water is another concern. There is an overall governance crisis within the sector that is because of the monopoly of government through Karachi Water & Sewerage Board (KW&SB). Issues in governance are characterized by a rising decline in the quality of service and financial bankruptcy.

The Hon’ble Supreme Court of Pakistan, Karachi Registry has in its order dated 8th September 2016 directed the KWSB to close down 11 hydrants and float new tenders for the six hydrants which will be operated in each district of Karachi. The district judges of Karachi including Malir have been deputed to interact with concerned officers/engineers or whoever is incharge within their districts to ensure distribution of water to the public in a transparent manner.

Shehri-CBE has researched into the crisis of KWSB has exposed many gaps, the most important being the overall governance and the non-functional Board. We have met many stakeholders and held meeting. This consultative meeting is being done to bring all the viewpoints at one platform and try to find the most important first step.