



"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."
Margaret Mead

SHEHRI

CITIZENS FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

JULY - DECEMBER 2016

THE QUEST FOR POWER - PAKISTAN, POLLUTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE



Federal Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control of Pakistan Mr. Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan signed the Paris Agreement on April 19, 2016 stating [Article 6 - Clause 8], "(a) Promote mitigation and adaptation ambition;

(b) Enhance public and private sector participation in the implementation of nationally determined contributions; and

(c) Enable opportunities for coordination across instruments and relevant institutional arrangements."

Despite agreeing to conserve nature from adverse developmental activity the government has undertaken several coal power projects under China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Sahiwal Coal Power Plant,

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SHEHRI - CBE

88-R, Block 2, P.E.C.H.S,
Karachi 75400 – Pakistan.
Tel/Fax: +92-21-34 53 06 46
E-mail: info@shehri.org
URL: www.shehri.org

EDITORIAL

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Please contact the SHEHRI office for writers guidelines.

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SHEHRI-CBE

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Editorial

Sustainable Development Challenges

"On 1st January 2016, the world officially began implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - the transformative plan of action based on the 17 Sustainable Goals - to address urgent global challenges over the next 15 years." - Ban Ki Moon, Ex-General Secretary, United Nations.

The 17 SDGs are the new buzz words for social scientists and governments to ponder on from the perspective of an ordinary citizen. Do we have the understanding and comprehension of what it means for us? How we must contribute in terms of life style change, revisiting our food choice, use of water, disposal of waste and most importantly spread awareness in our homes and society?

The general populace appears to be oblivious to these goals and their objectives. The government too, exhibits no interest in raising awareness or facilitating changes in consumption behavior to promote a healthy environment.

Karachi, as a city, has become an unlivable space, daily traffic congestions, road accidents, rising costs of living and unfit quality of water and air. We seem to be working in isolation to change this.

The citizens need to be the instrument of change, raise awareness and make drastic changes in their life styles to overcome these sustainable development challenges and be around to see them.

Thar Coal Power Plant and Port Qasim Coal Power Plant are few of these deadly projects.

GermanWatch's Long-Term Climate Risk Index 2016 ranks Pakistan eight in the list of countries bearing the extreme brunt of climate change. According to the same index, 143 climactic events were recorded between 1996 and 2014 causing losses up to \$3,931 million to the country. 487 deaths were also reported during the same period.

These statistics do not include the 81 people who lost their life between November 1-6, 2016 when heavy smog blanketed Punjab nor does it include 3,967 people who were injured in the same span of time. Smog is not a natural phenomenon. It is caused by air pollution which combines with fog to cause various health risks to the populace.

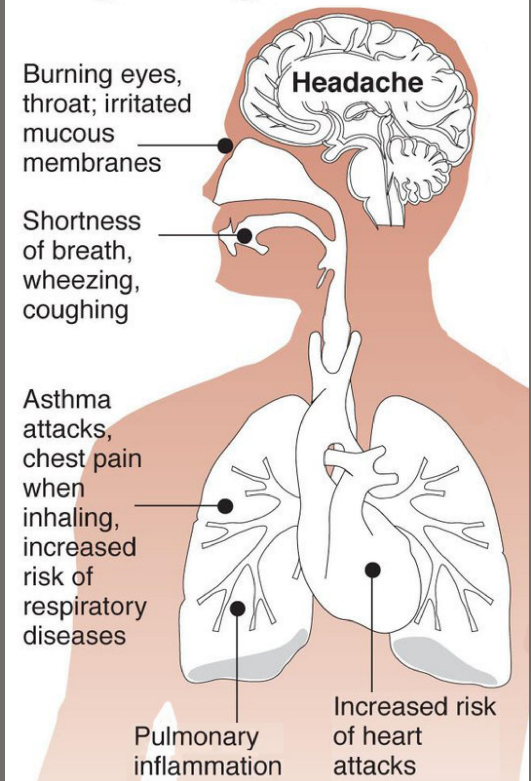
Moreover, the statistics of deadly heatwave in Karachi have also been missed (owing to the scope of this study). 1,300 casualties were reported by various national and international newspapers in 2015 alone.

Agreeing to build coal power

plants will supplement environmental degradation by adding tons of Greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. This is a recipe of mass genocide. Hundreds of people have already lost their lives in various climactic events in Pakistan which include riverine floods, heatwaves, glacial lake outburst floods, smog and other dangerous disasters, and instead of protecting already vulnerable population our government is planning mass extermination.

This is not an exaggeration to fool the masses. Climate Change is not a hoax nor is the damage incurred by the

Why smog is harmful



installation of coal power plants. To understand the science behind electricity generation through coal, refer to the illustrations given on the next page.

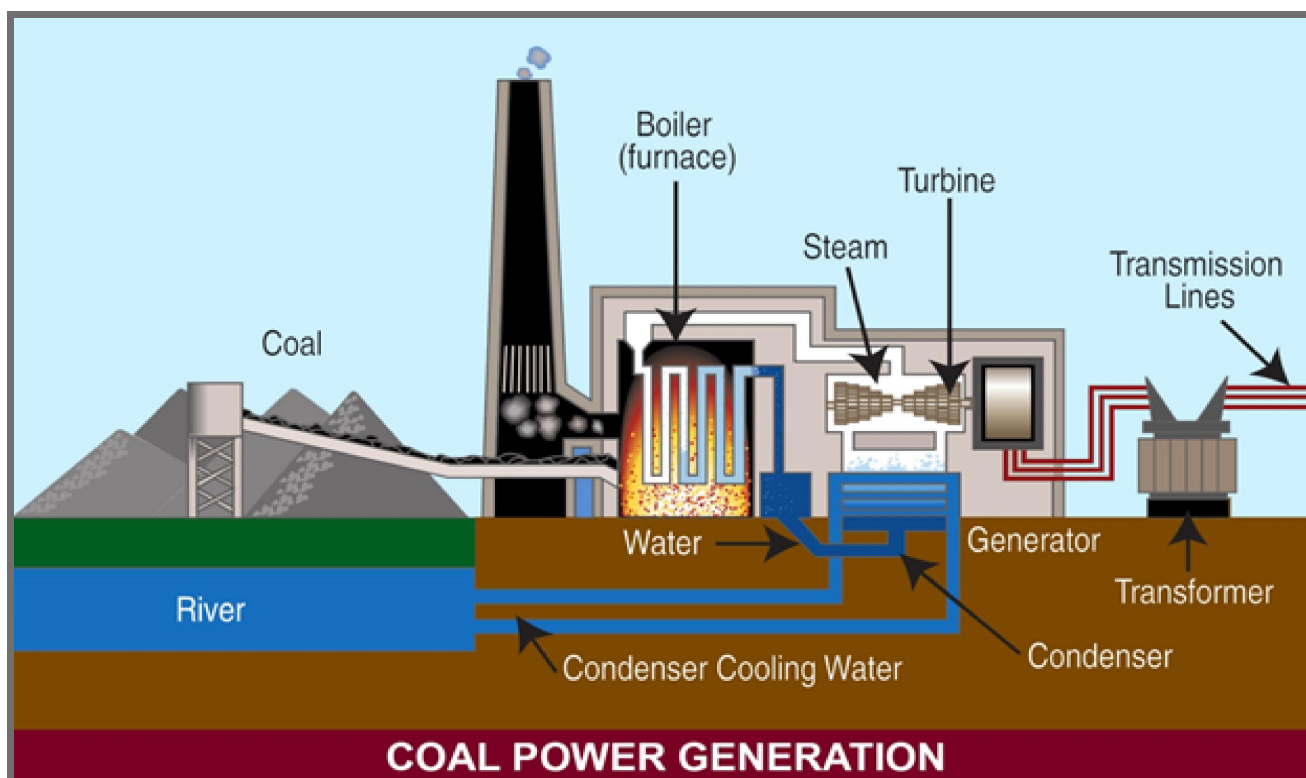


Paris Agreement

Article 2

(a) Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change

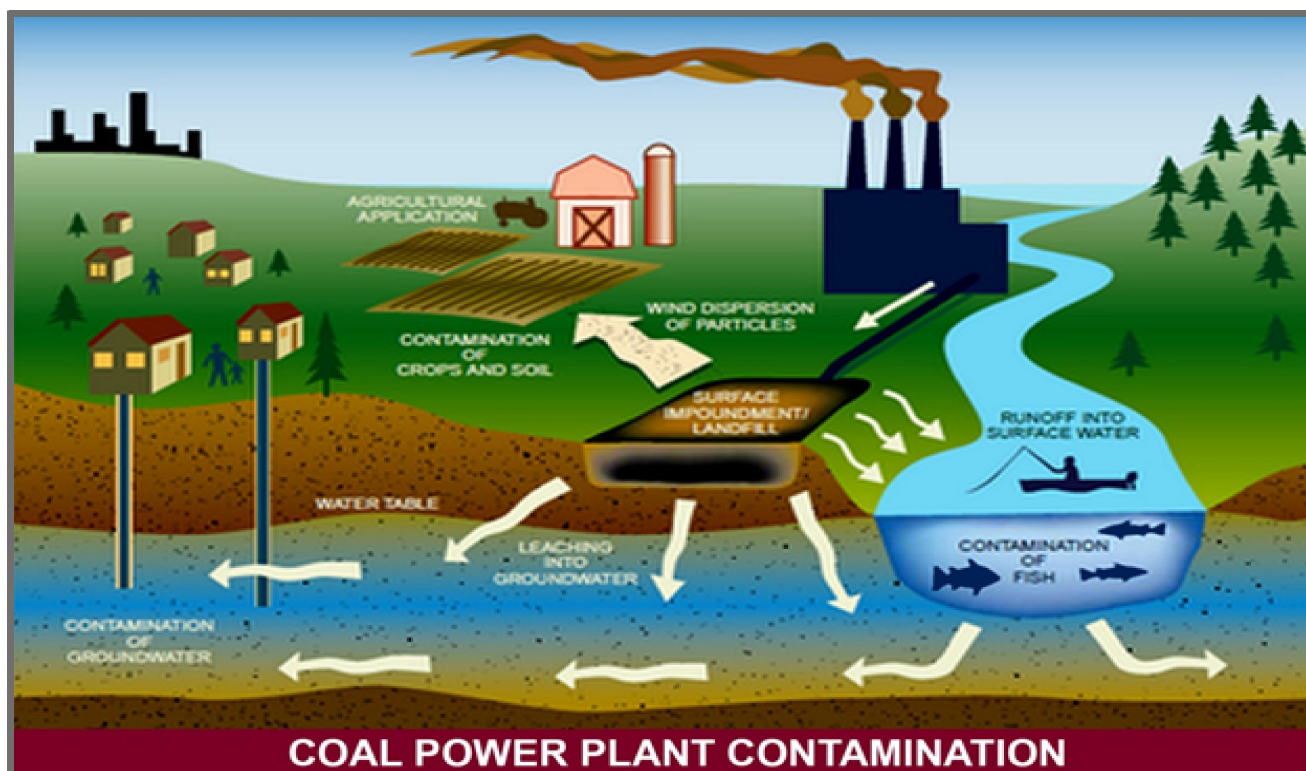
Tiger in Karachi Zoo hugging an ice block to survive deadly heat wave



Coal power causes destruction at various levels of its power generation cycle. It is not just the air that it contaminates. It

destroys the nearby soil and water bodies too. The entire ecosystem suffers when a coal power plant starts working in

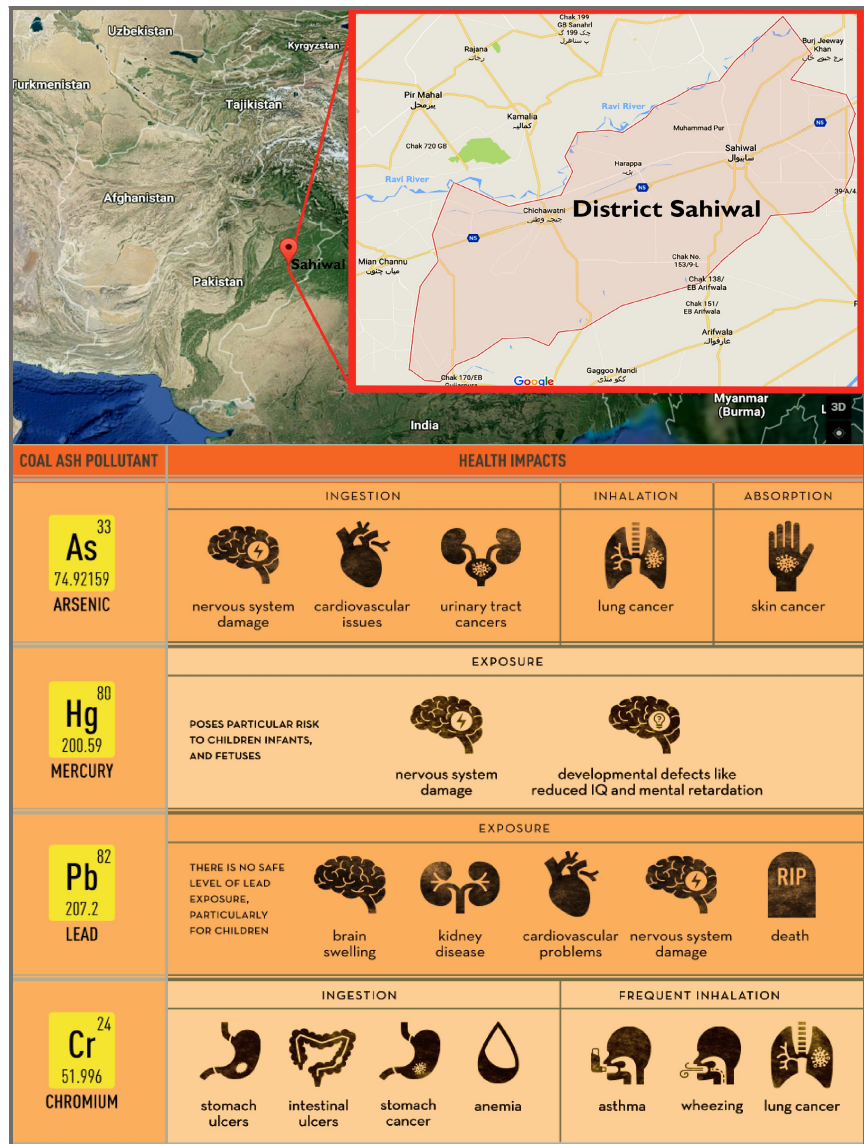
any area. The Pakistani tax payers are building these power plants at the cost of their lives. Start believing!



Sahiwal is known as the fruit and vegetable basket of Pakistan. 83.73% of the 1.8 million people in the district rely on agriculture and related activities for their livelihood. Our government is building a coal power plant to poison us, our food and livestock.

Sadly it is not just Sahiwal, there is a whole list! May be our government plans to reduce population this way.

Toxic levels of arsenic, mercury, cadmium, chromium and lead can be found in coal-fueled power plant waste. If these contaminants enter the environment - through dust, leaching into groundwater or from discharges into surface waters - they can contaminate drinking water supplies and accumulate in livestock and crops.



Arsenic has been associated with cancer, cardiovascular diseases and neurological damage, while Cadmium causes kidney damage, and increases risks of prostate and respiratory cancer. Lead

is no friend either! It causes developmental delay in children, hypertension, impaired hearing acuity, impaired hemoglobin synthesis, and male reproductive impairment.

other illnesses. Health problems caused by polluted air are also equally threatening.

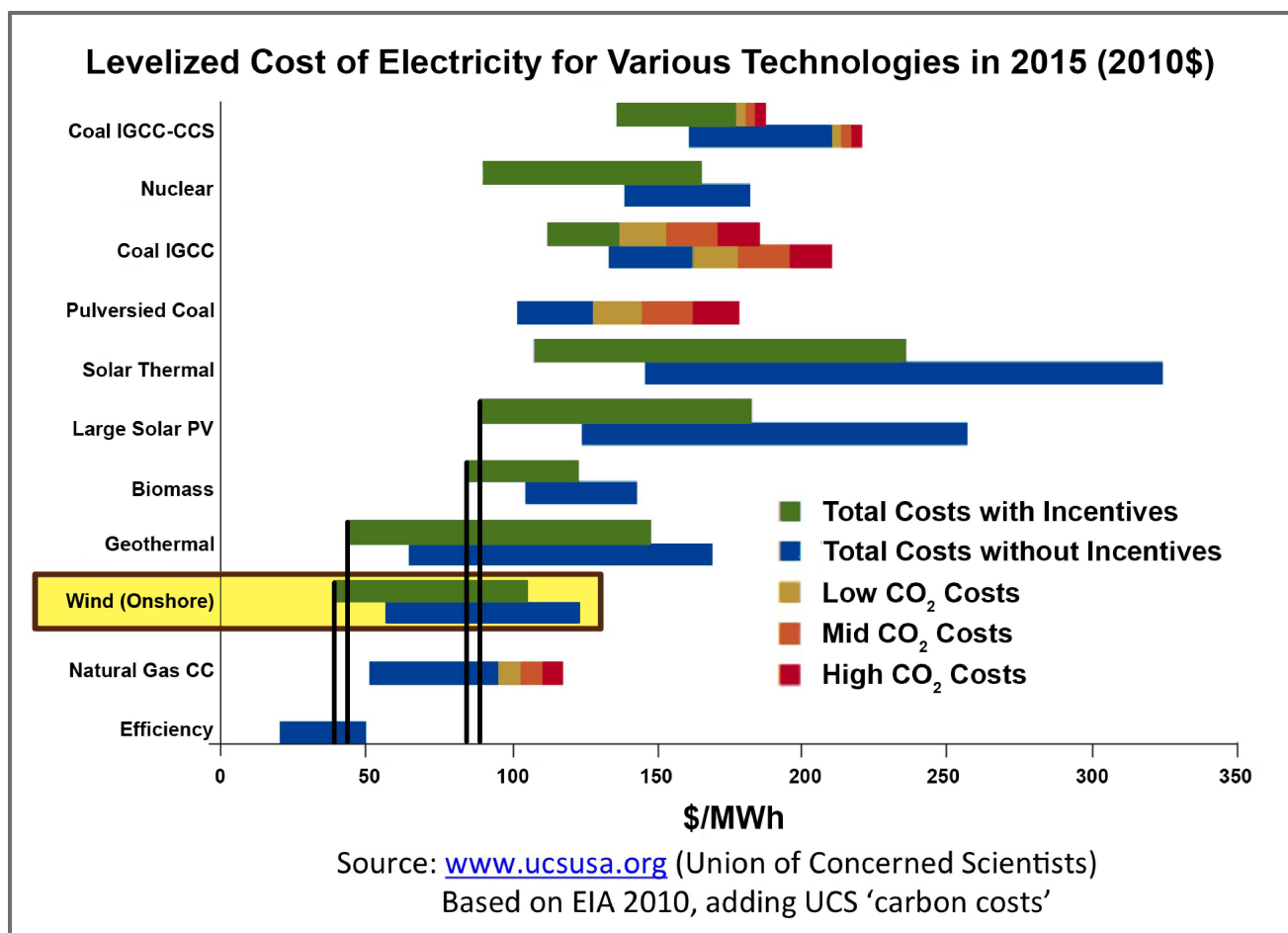
Due to lack of awareness, our government has made us believe in the extraordinary benefits of coal power and we are celebrating their high intellect without understanding the long term implications of this



The average health risks to the public due to metals from power plant waste disposal units are up to 10,000 times higher than their allowable risk levels for cancer and

catastrophic venture. We are also made to believe in the blessing of coal being the cheaper source of energy. The scientists and experts around the world prove otherwise.

Figures, as old as 2010, determine cost of wind, geothermal, biomass, and solar power way lower than that of coal and nuclear power. In 2016, the cost of alternate energy has been further reduced around the globe.



Therefore the government is deliberately putting the lives of several million people and generations at stake for its geo-political interests.

In the parallel realm, Scientific American, a popular U.S. based magazine that boasts contributors such as Albert Einstein in its 170-

year-history, reported the shift of Chinese regional power policy from coal to renewables on October 23, 2016. Chinese regulators are planning to raise their non-fossil fuel share up to 15% by 2020. Ironically, the same policy has been overlooked by the Chinese, while supporting Pakistan in the construction of new coal

power plants.

According to Deutsche Welle, a German Broadcaster, China ordered to curtail output of 419 factories in Beijing, Tianjin, Heze and Handon for five days to prevent casualties by the deathly air in its industrial metropolitans in 2016.



Delhi Smog Blanket

Side by side, India closed down its coal power plants in a bid to save its capital 'Delhi' from the deadly onslaught of smog. The Indian Express Newspaper labelled the bad air 'capital punishment' for its citizens. A blanket ban on garbage burning, firecracker use and brick kiln activity was enforced by the Indian Supreme Court through Environment Pollution

Control Authority (EPCA) to save its citizens from further health damage.

In spite of irrefutable evidence of damage caused by greenhouse gases, the Pakistani political leadership and establishment continues to defy Mother Nature with its environmentally-destructive policies and projects favoring fossil fuel power generation over

alternative sources of energy.

Few alternative energy projects have also been undertaken under the China Pakistan Economic Corridor such as Solar park in Bahawalpur (1000 MW), and wind farm at Jhimpir (260 MW) are projects that can easily put deadly coal power projects of Port Qasim (1320 MW) and Gwadar (300 MW) to shame.

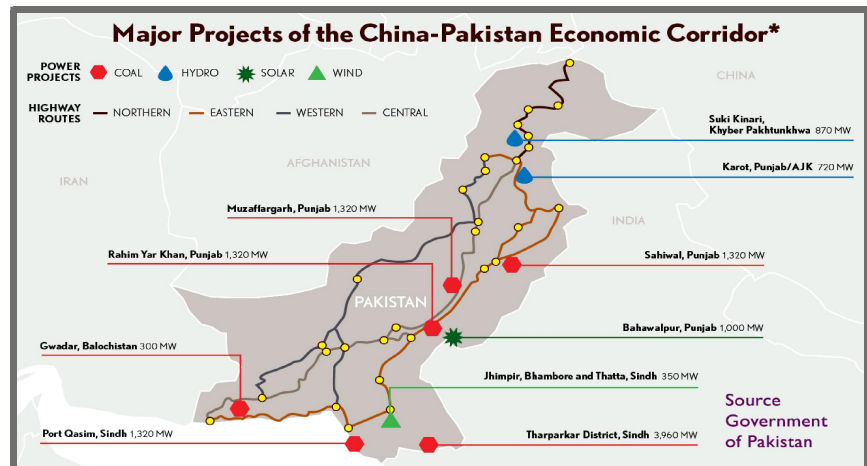
These alternative and clean energy projects clearly highlight the viability of such ventures in Pakistan. The technologies and resources are available, we are only insisting to commit suicide at the hands of our "all weather friend". The cause behind such insistence is still unclear.

A recent study conducted by MIT Atmosphere / Energy Programme at Stanford University and University of California have developed a detailed plan and concluded that a renewable energy powered world is indeed a possibility by 2050.

The teams made an interactive global map which shows the projected energy mix on each of the analysed countries. The map lists the potential that Pakistan has and what sort of benefits the population can reap if the country follows their projected plans.

The study reports that Pakistan has a potential of producing 92 percent of its electricity requirements via solar energy, at a rate that is amongst the highest in the world. Around 58.1 percent of that electricity can be produced by solar plants and 15 percent via Concentrated Solar Plants (CSP).

Regarding advantages for



International Responsibility Towards Global Warming

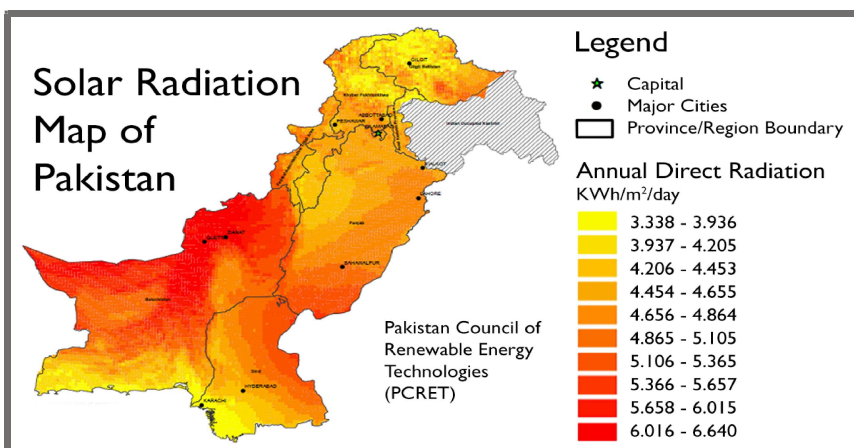
Climate Change and Global Warming are borderless phenomena; therefore no country can absolve itself from the international crime of adding greenhouse gases to the atmosphere. Despite assuming the most vulnerable position in the climate risk indices, Pakistan is not just putting its own people at risk but also subjecting others in the world to an increased possibility of death through pollution. Coal power is not a development project, it is a recipe for disaster.

Pakistan, the study claims this plan will produce 291,110 long-term (over 40 years) jobs in construction sector and 239,989 long-term jobs in operations division.

The health costs will be reduced which will be about 21 % of the whole GDP in 2050. The plan will pay for itself in just one year from air pollution and climate cost savings. Air pollution will be reduced by 14 times.

The money aspect will be another positive prospect as the electricity will cost two-thirds of what it would if the electric production continues according to the current estimates. The government will -save \$3,469 via energy, health and climate costs per person.

Almost same results are attributed by studies conducted by the Pakistan Council of Renewable Energy Technologies (PCRET).



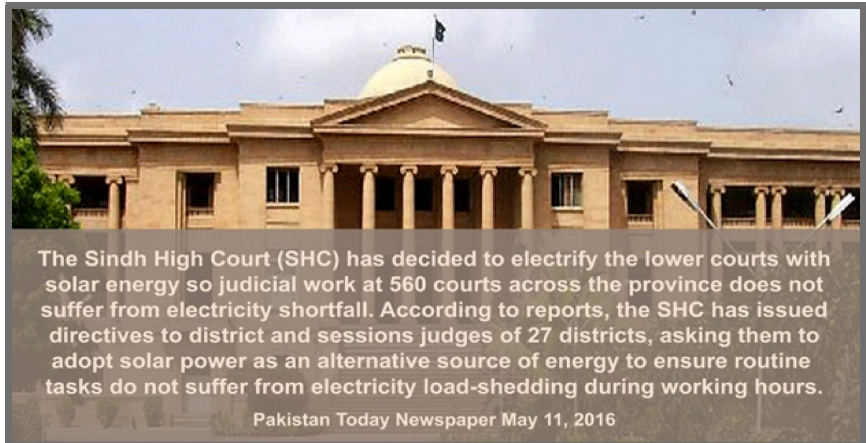
The demand for energy has increased tremendously in the last few decades in Pakistan. At present oil accounts for approximately 45% of total commercial energy supply. The share of natural gas is 34% while that of hydel power remains roughly at 15%.

Moreover, our country is also blessed with fair amount of wind energy to power up its grid. The combined potential of both these sources is magnanimous enough to fulfil the needs of our future population.



In Sindh, work on twenty two windmill projects is underway at Ghara-Keti Bandar and Hyderabad wind corridor having capacity of 1,530 megawatts of electricity.

Areas having coverage of 9,700 sq. km in Sindh have a gross wind power potential of approximately 43,000 MW keeping in view the area utilization constraints. This capacity alone is more than double the current peak energy requirement of 21,000 MW.



The Sindh High Court (SHC) has decided to electrify the lower courts with solar energy so judicial work at 560 courts across the province does not suffer from electricity shortfall. According to reports, the SHC has issued directives to district and sessions judges of 27 districts, asking them to adopt solar power as an alternative source of energy to ensure routine tasks do not suffer from electricity load-shedding during working hours.

Pakistan Today Newspaper May 11, 2016

The energy planning expert group of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has forecast electricity shortfall to further increase to 10,844MW by 2020.

Pakistan can live up to its potential if the people decide to take ownership of their country and build it safer and healthier for its future generations.

Wind Potential Area of Sindh (Pakistan Meteorological Department and Sindh Energy Department)

- Total area of Sindh suitable for wind farms = 9749 km²
- Average Capacity Factor of this area in Sindh = 25%
- Wind power potential of 18MW Wind Farm on 1 km² area when Capacity Factor is 25% = $18 \times 0.25 = 4.5$ MW
- Gross Potential of the area corresponding to 25% Capacity Factor = $9749 \times 4.5 = 43871$ MW
- Exploitable potential (25% of the area) ? 11000 MW
- Fair estimates of Sindh Wind Corridor deems exploitable potential to generate about 60,000 MW electricity

The annual growth rate of electricity demand between 2013 and 2020 is projected about 7.8%, pushing the overall power demand to 27,840MW by 2017 and 31,900MW by 2020. (Report based on the statistics provided by the Ministry of Water).

Thereby, the country needs to invest in its renewable and extensively available resources to enhance its development potential in the region.

Otherwise our nation will disappear in the pages of history as another civilization which faced the brunt of ecological disaster and failed to survive.

We are our future! We can protect or destroy ourselves. As Rumi - the famous poet - says, "Remember the entrance door to the sanctuary is inside you." Let us discover and use this door!

BRT ORANGE LINE — FACTS AND APPREHENSIONS



The orange line is the shortest Bus Rapid Transport (BRT) route of Karachi covering only 4.7 of the total 196.2 kilometers of the BRT network. The main purpose is to connect Orangi Town populace with the main BRT corridor of Green Line through a safe and efficient transport system.

Roughly, fifty thousand passengers will travel through this line every day amounting up to 1,500,000 passengers per month.

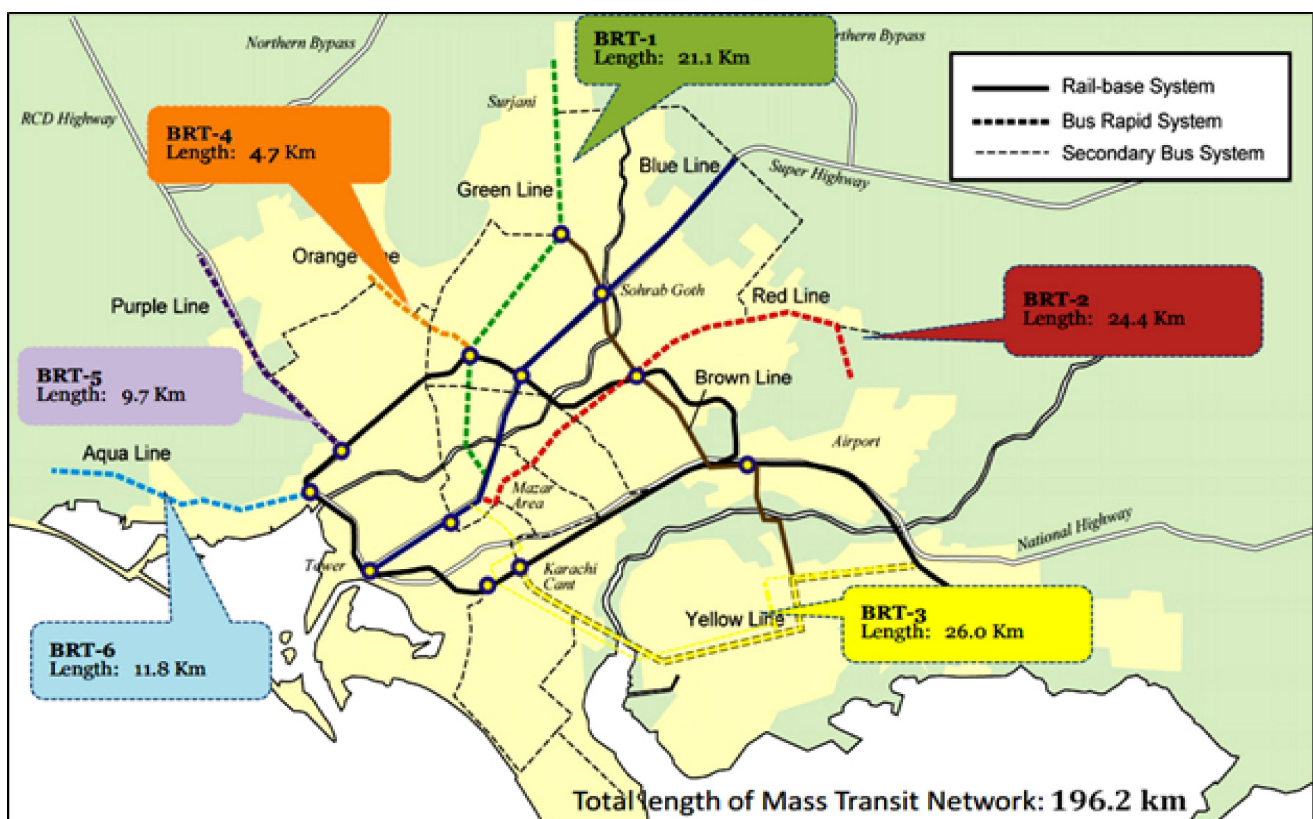
Orange line BRT service has an astounding capacity of 10,000 Passengers per Hour per Direction (pphpd), which is way more than the current requirement of the locale and has been approved to uptake the future needs of Karachi.

United Nations World Cities Report 2016 has named Karachi's Orangi town as the largest slum in the world beating 1.2 Million population of Ciudad Neza (Mexico), 1 Million population of Dharavi (India), 0.7 Million population of

Kibera (Kenya), and 0.4 Million population of Khayelitsha (South Africa).

The estimated population of the area is projected around 2.4 Million people (More than the population of Qatar) yet devoid of even the basic facilities like water and sewerage connections.

Shehri-CBE encourages the construction of Orange BRT line, but has put forth certain apprehensions to the Director General of Sindh Environmental Protection Agency.



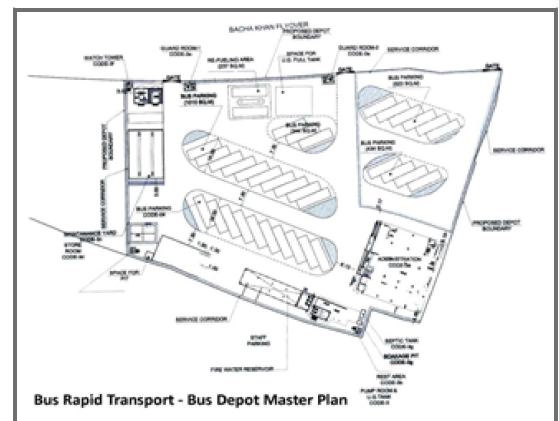
1. Why is BRT being undertaken by the provincial government? This is a local government area concern like building control, urban master planning, water and sewerage. This should be undertaken by Karachi Municipal Corporation (KMC).



4. No mention has been

5. It is extremely critical that the storm drainage system around the entire route of the orange line be upgraded otherwise various elements of the bus-ways and station equipment (including lifts, escalators, platforms, ticketing machines, etc.) will come under water. It is not sufficient to merely elevate/slope the bus-ways as this may exacerbate the problem. The solutions listed in 4.3.16 are too simplistic to deal with this issue.

6. Since it is unlikely that the rest of the BRT system (including buses) will be ready by the time the busways have been constructed, will these be opened to use by normal traffic (perhaps buses only) until the BRT buses start operating?
7. During construction, the existing road and traffic situation must not be allowed to deteriorate like it has on the green line corridor (e.g. Business Recorder Road near Guru Mandir), disturbing normal traffic.

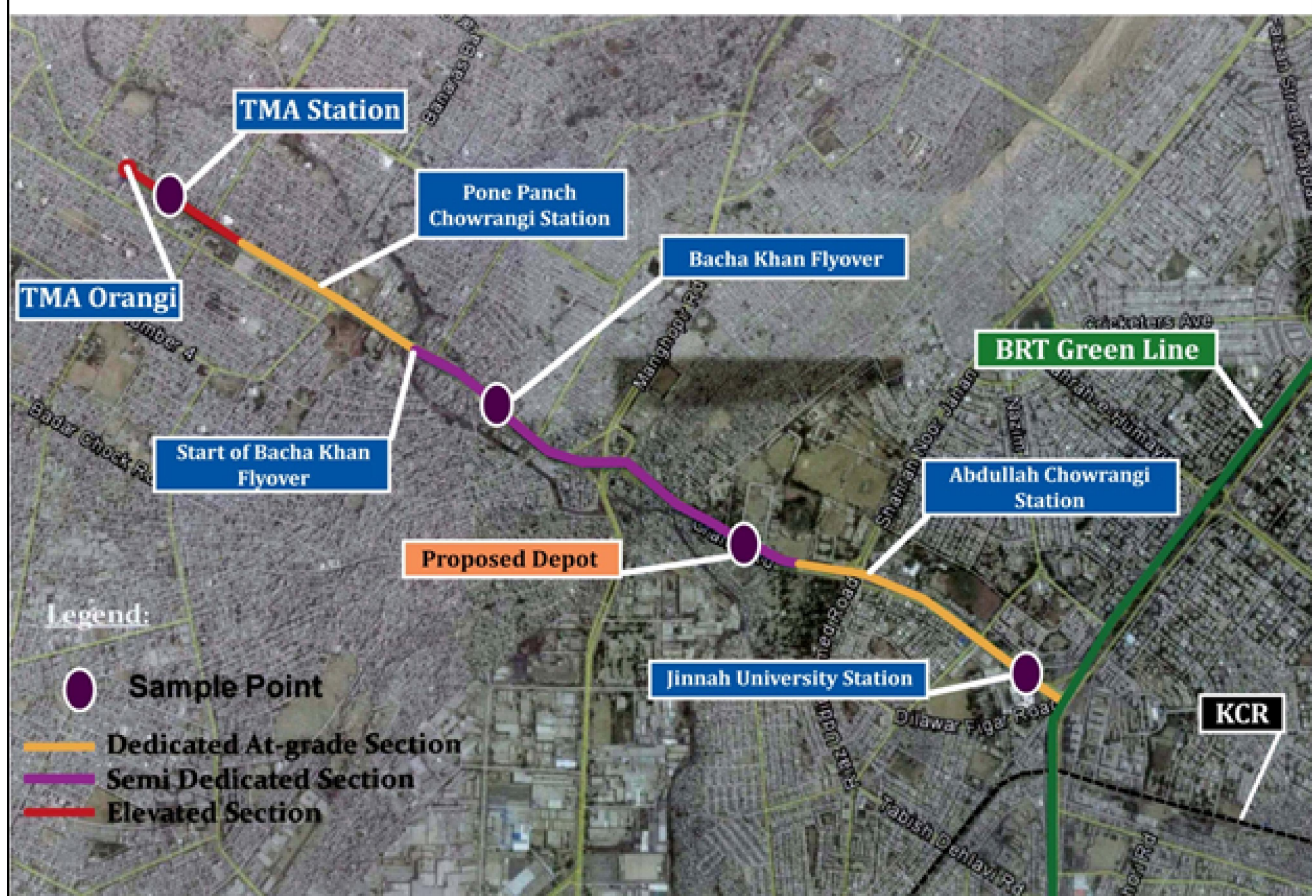


The following steps must be taken as a minimum:

- a. All excavations must be carried out very precisely and extra excavated earth removed from site immediately.
- b. Only materials and equipment that is needed immediately must be stored on site.
- c. The construction work areas must be clearly separated from the remaining traffic lanes with fences, and spill-over earth onto operating lanes prevented.
- d. The excavations must be identified with warning lights after darkness.
- e. An alternative traffic movement plan must be developed and enforced over the entire construction period by the traffic police and other government personnel.
- f. Dust emissions must be suppressed with water sprinkling.
- g. Major works must be carried out on weekends and holidays.

Shehri-CBE supports infrastructure improvement that aligns with international standards of environmentally friendly development.

Location Map of Environmental Monitoring Points along BRT - Orange Line



PROTECTING KARACHI'S COASTAL HABITAT



By Farhan Anwar

Human actions, such as land encroachment, reclamation, pollution and illegal harvesting of natural resources, are threatening a precious natural habitat of Pakistan - the Karachi coastal ecosystem.

Every year on 23rd May, World Turtle Day observes. Not many people in this country, however, still know that Karachi's Sandspit and Hawke's Bay are considered two of the most important nesting sites for green turtles in the world.

support dense mangrove vegetation, containing a rich, complex food web of algae, juvenile fish, shrimps and crabs. Many water birds, too, are to be found in this area, especially herons, ospreys, marsh harriers and waders such as stints, sandpipers, redshanks, avocets and black-winged stilts. The creek system is also vital for shorebirds wintering and summering in Pakistan, while supporting birds such as cormorants, flamingos, ducks, gulls and terns as well.

and Hawke's Bay, have been identified as 'Wetlands of International Importance'.

At the time of the listing, the habitat was considered a particularly good example of the region's wetlands. It also supported an appreciable range of rare, vulnerable or endangered species of plants and animals as well as over 20,000 waterfowl, and was found to be of special value as the habitat of plants and animals at a critical stage of their biological cycle.



The larger area around the turtle nesting habitat, stretching from Sandspit to Cape Monze, consists of around 20 kilometres of sandy beaches with small rocky areas and cliffs, which play host to a diverse coastal ecology.

Meanwhile, the backwaters

The habitat is globally recognised for its wetland characteristics. Pakistan is a signatory to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and on the basis of criteria adopted in Regina, Canada, in 1987, some of the main wetland sites on the Karachi coastline, including Sandspit

Even in 1989, researchers considered these beaches and their adjacent creeks as one of the most threatened wetlands in the country, saying that the habitat was likely to be lost or suffer major ecological changes unless immediate remedial action was taken. While the situation has now changed for the worse, there is still much to be salvaged.

The issue of concern is that the habitat does not enjoy a protected area status, which is a serious hindrance in its sustainable preservation since it relates to regulating beach development and placing adequate environmental safeguards.



The Karachi Coastal Recreation Development Plan (1990-2000) was the first comprehensive planning document that proposed a protected area status for the threatened ecological sites along the city's coastline. Indicating that a protected status was needed because development activities were likely to have adverse effects on the habitat, the study proposed three protected areas, including the Hub River outfall and adjacent Sonari Hills, the Sandspit beach and the creek mangrove ecosystem.

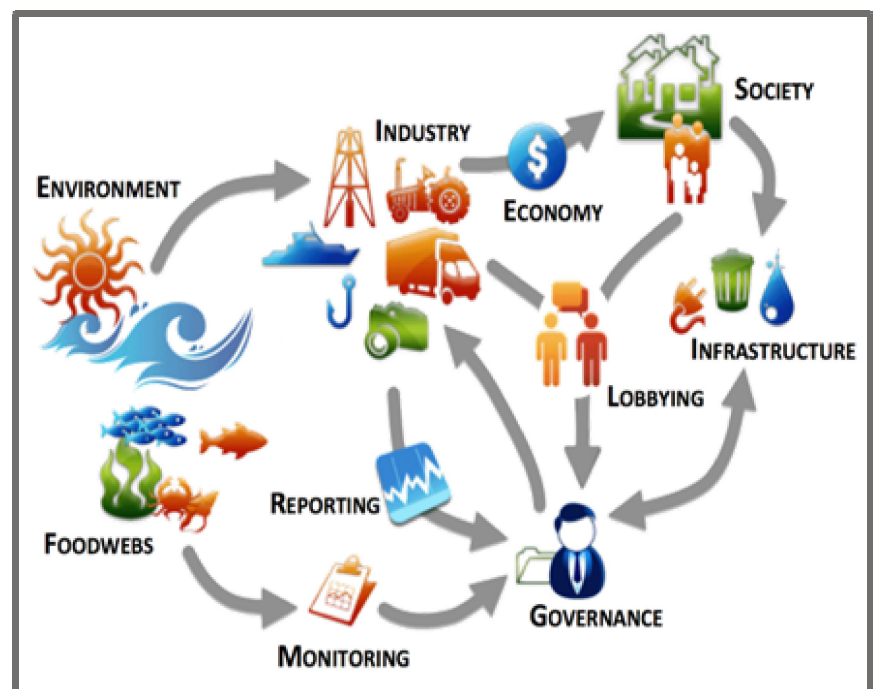
Later, the Karachi Building and Town Planning Regulations, 2002, took its

coastal preservation recommendations from this plan, earmarking the entire 40-mile strip of the Karachi coastline from the Hub River Estuary to Gharo

Creek as an interim control area for recreation and tourism.

There is now an urgent need to revisit these documents and accord this habitat a protected status, thereby beginning the critically required process of protecting and sustainably managing Karachi's coastal resources.

To begin with, we need a national protected area status, which could be that of a wildlife sanctuary, and then seek a globally recognised status. Even now, if we show the required political will, a strong case can still be argued for the designation of the Karachi beach habitat as a Ramsar site.

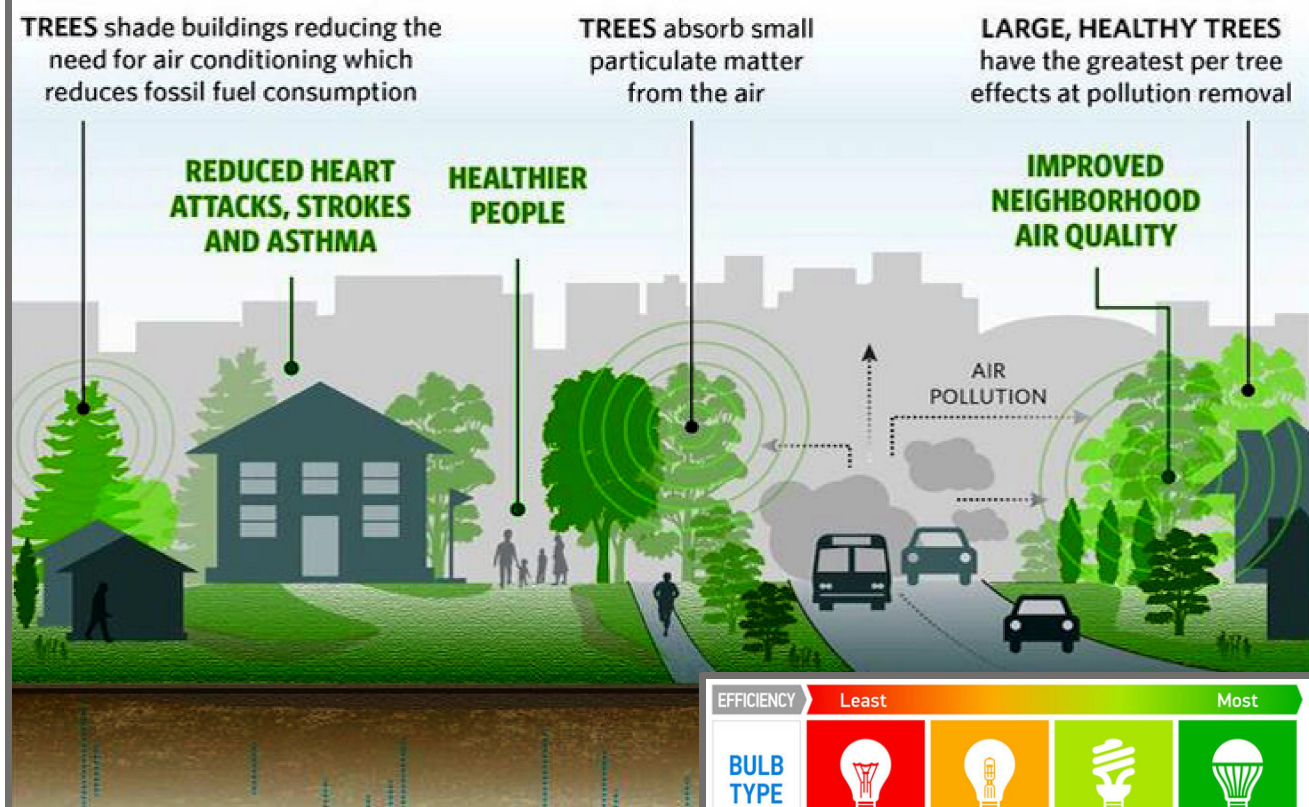


KARACHI - URBAN HEALTH AND WELLBEING



URBAN TREES, BETTER AIR QUALITY

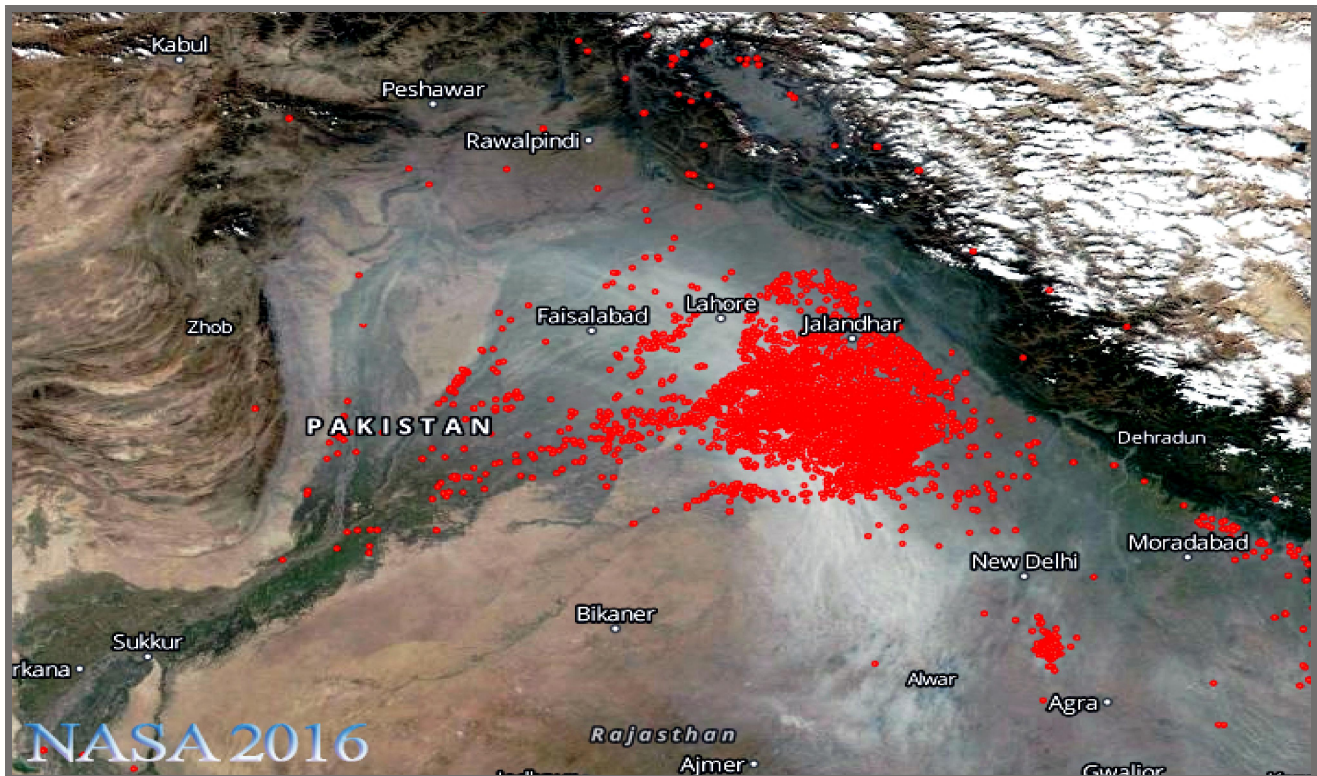
Trees in cities can remove up to a quarter of the particulate matter in their immediate vicinity. And when planted near apartments, buildings, schools, or hospital, urban trees can help protect human health.



Sustainable Development Goals recognise "Good health and Wellbeing" as one of the primary indicators of Human Development. This goal is dependent upon 16 other goals to facilitate healthy life style which includes the idea of sustainable cities and communities.

Conservation and smart energy use is the best climate action we can uptake to mitigate negative human influence on our environment.

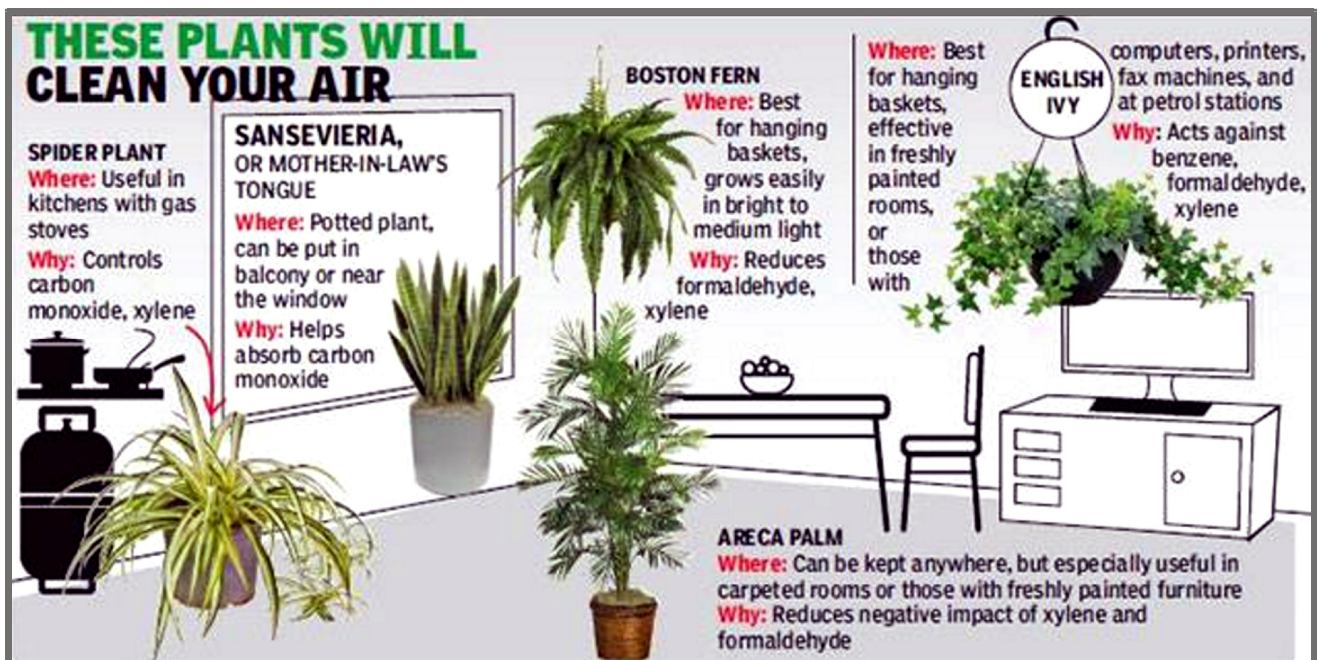
EFFICIENCY	Least				Most
BULB TYPE					
LUMENS	STANDARD	HALOGEN	CFL	LED	
450	40 W	29 W	9 W	8 W	
800	60 W	43 W	14 W	13 W	
1100	75 W	53 W	19 W	17 W	
1600	100 W	72 W	23 W	20 W	
RATED LIFE	1 year	1-3 years	6-10 years	15-25 years	
SAVINGS	×	up to 30%	up to 75%	up to 80%	



NASA maps crop waste fires that resulted in deadly Lahore and Delhi smog. If

alternate measures are not adopted by India and Pakistan to destroy

agricultural waste, smog season will be a permanent annual feature. (2016)



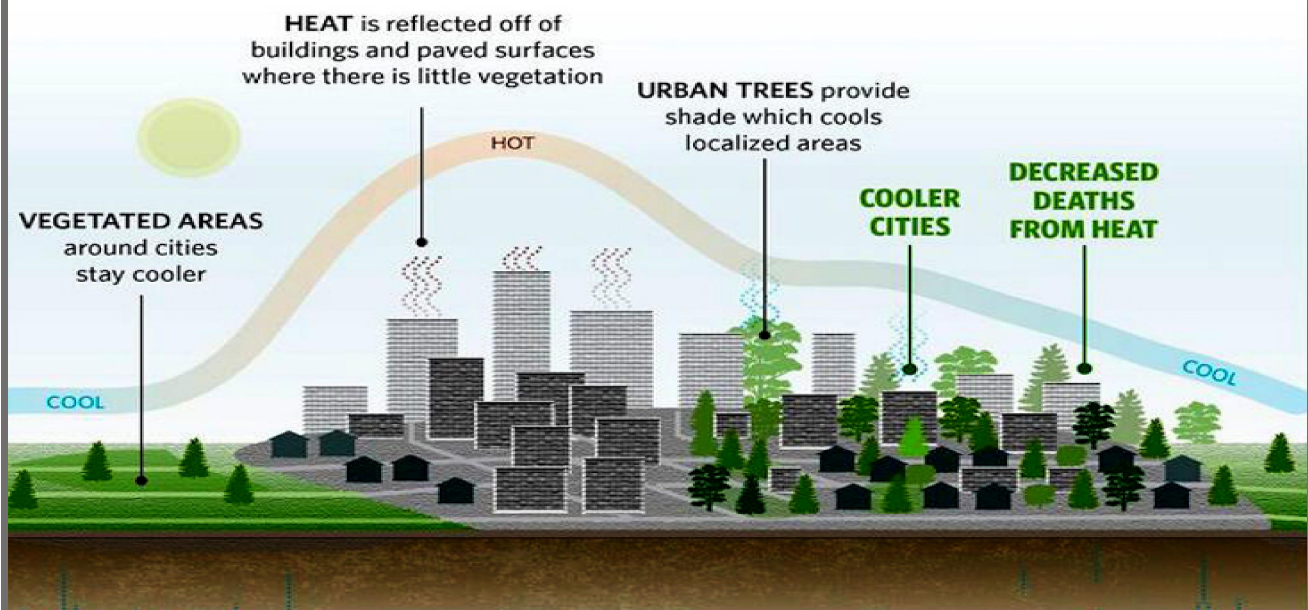
Urban Life Savers: These plants will clear indoor pollution for you. You can

regulate a healthy lifestyle in your home and office through these natural air filters.

Outside Air is often beyond your control; regulate the Inside Air Quality at least.

URBAN TREES, COOLER CITIES

Pavement and concrete in cities absorb energy from the sun and then radiate that energy out, heating the air in cities more than in the surrounding countryside. Urban trees provide shade, preventing pavement and concrete from heating up, and also cool the air by transpiring water. Trees can cool neighborhoods by up to 4 degrees Fahrenheit.

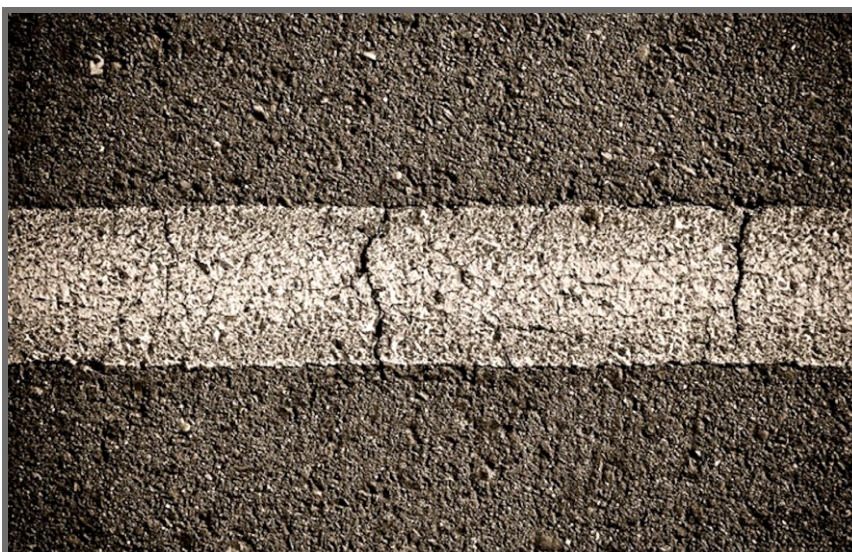


Urban Heat Islands are caused by trapped heat within the concrete jungles inhabiting us. Vegetation can help reduce heat in the surroundings. If we do not want another heat wave to claim hundreds of lives in Karachi, we need to plant more trees and that too, soon.

Side by side, scientists are developing new methods of enabling ecofriendly construction, such as roads

and pavements lined with Titanium oxide - a compound that reduces pollution from the air.

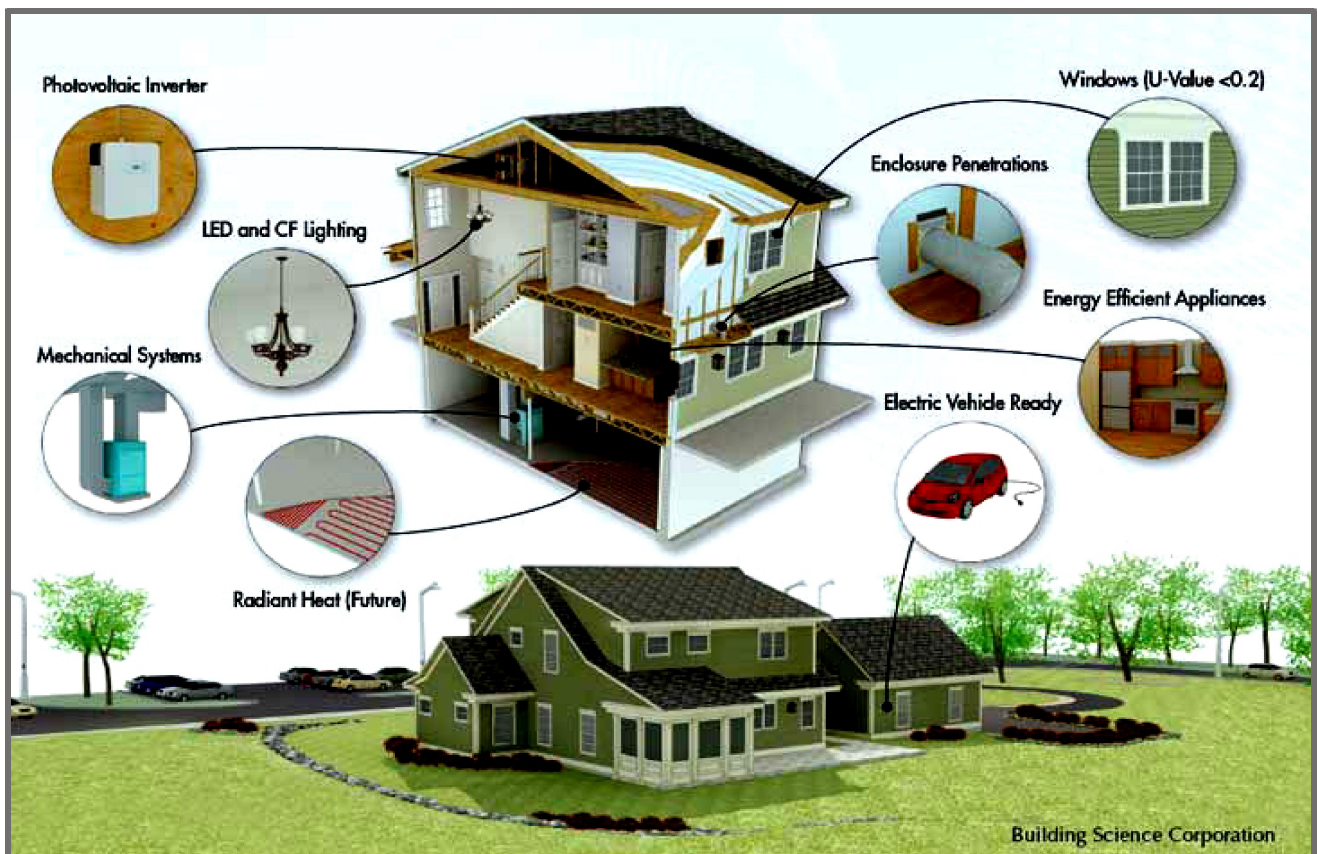
Dutch scientists from Eindhoven University of Technology explored this concept by developing special "photocatalytic pavement" that reduces smog by 45 percent in ideal conditions and 19 percent throughout the day.

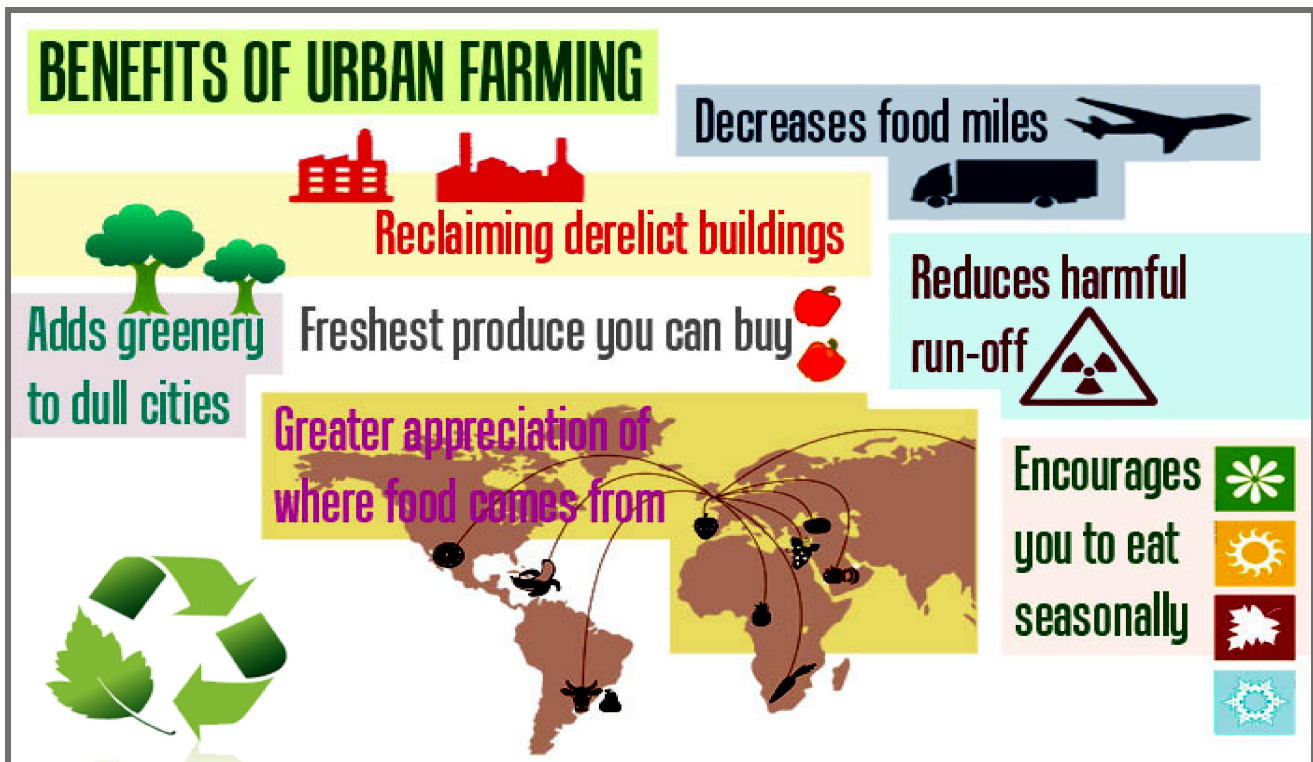


The pavement pulls harmful nitrogen oxides out of the air and converts these into less dangerous chemicals such as nitrates. The team published their findings in the June edition of the Journal of Hazardous Materials.



The University of Engineering and Technology of Peru developed a billboard that can purify 100,000 cubic





Mega cities of the world are extremely dependent upon suburban and rural food production to meet their growing needs. With soaring population, urban farming is a healthy solution to meet food requirements and reduce

pollution from our environment.

Conservation Law Foundation's report "Growing Green: Measuring Benefits, Overcoming Barriers, and Nurturing Opportunities for Urban Agriculture in Boston"

reveals that only 50 acres of urban agriculture is enough to feed 3600 people and reduce CO₂ by 4700 tons per year. The idea can be replicated in mega cities like Karachi, Lahore, and Quetta to move towards food sustainability.



WEAPON FREE SOCIETY IN PAKISTAN



"Karachi must be cleansed of all illicit arms, even if it calls for taking drastic steps like imposing a curfew" stated a Supreme Court directive of 2013.



The government was left with no option but to comply or at least appear to be doing so. As expected, it chose the latter option. Scores of ill-conceived newspaper ads were rolled out without any thought, plan, intention, resource or methodology. Two weeks (deadline period) and 30 million rupees later, around 12 guns were surrendered. That was the last that anyone ever heard of a 'weapon recovery' program in Pakistan.

In 2015, Shehri-CBE along with Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, Tehreek-e-Niswan, Shirkat Gah, Pakistan Medical Association, Citizens

Against Weapons, Citizens-Police Liaison Committee, Citizens Trust Against Crime, and Pakistan Institute of Labour Education & Research joined hands to coerce the government to implement the Supreme Court Order to de-weaponize Pakistan.

Recently Citizens Against Weapons organized 'Walk a Cause' on November 27, 2016 in Karachi to demand an end to the 12 million illegal weapons floating in Pakistan. The march began from Sea View (in front of McDonald's Restaurant to Chunky Monkey and back), to demand that no citizen,

regardless of his/her status be allowed to possess, carry or display any weapon of any kind - licensed or otherwise.

The citizens demanded that all private militias should be completely disbanded in compliance with Article 256 of the Constitution of Pakistan.

This protest engaged scores of prominent figures from all walks of life such as Naeem Sadiq, Pervez Hoodbhoy, Wasim Akram, Jehan Ara, Arif Belgaumi, Bernadette Dean, Danish Azar Zubay, Mukhtar Ahmad Ali, Mahera Omar, Amina Jilani, and Shehzad Roy along with many others.

The campaign will continue till we have a weapon free society in Pakistan.



HOUBARA REPUBLIC

By Naeem Sadiq



Future historians will be hard pressed to understand how a small migratory bird became the symbol of a country's ideology, foreign policy, lawlessness, loss of self-esteem, constitutional violations, cruelty towards animals, and degradation of its eco-system. What did the innocent bird do wrong? Why did all the state institutions collapse when it came to protection of the defenseless Houbaras. While we will never be able to fathom the entire truth, we can attempt to look into the facts and motives that make our country appear to be a Houbara Republic.

The middle eastern princes, not exactly known for their contribution to science, did however develop two unique sports - both based on deriving personal pleasure by delivering cruelty to



animals, birds and children. One is to engage in camel racing with small under-nourished 5 to 6-year old boys tied on the camel's back. The other is to unleash hungry falcons to prey upon the beautiful Houbara Bustard - a graceful migratory bird whose meat, they believe, contains aphrodisiac powers. Interestingly both these commodities (the impoverished children and the beautiful Houbaras) are readily available from the nearby Republic.

For decades, royal Arab hunting expeditions have

traveled to the far reaches of Pakistan in pursuit of Houbaras, taxonomically classified as *Chlamydotis Macqueenii*. While it is difficult to estimate how many of these migratory birds are killed every year by the Arab predators, a safe estimate would place this number to be anything between three to four thousand. No Pakistani official has the temerity to count the carnage. In a rare display of courage Jaffar Baloch, the Divisional Forest Officer of the Balochistan Forest and Wildlife department Chagai reported killing of 2100 Houbaras by just one Arab prince in a span of twenty days. The prince continued the hunt



while the inspector was quietly eased out to a desk job.

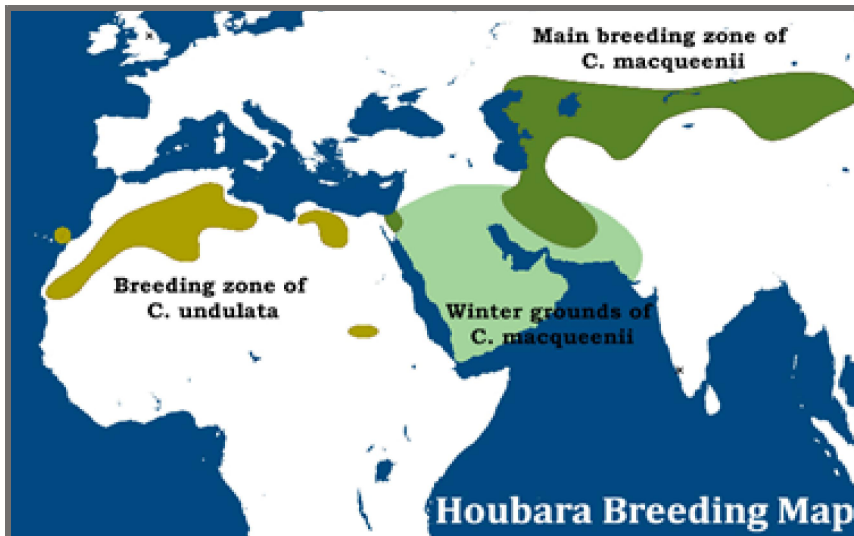
A clever crime diluting mechanism is contrived for issuing hunting permissions. The Foreign Office (FO) receives a nod from the Prime Minister and goes on to issue a letter to the concerned embassy, allocating areas and defining code of conduct. Incidentally, the FO has no jurisdiction to issue either the permission or the code. A dissenting note by Qazi Faez Isa, a Supreme Court judge in the Houbara bustard review petition brilliantly sums up the FO behavior - "I may observe that it is a matter of grave concern that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is facilitating the transgression of the Act, which is a Federal

law, and the wildlife laws of three provinces."

The constitution of Pakistan unambiguously declares, "All citizens are equal in the eyes of the law". The state by its behavior has demonstrated that it does not believe in its own constitution. If it is illegal for Pakistanis to kill these endangered birds how come the Arab Shaikhs are allowed to rampantly indulge in this barbarity? No person including the caliph is above the law. While the constitution of Pakistan is emphatic on this principle, there is no institution that can prevent the state from blatantly discriminating between 'dignitaries' and the ordinary people. This is the biggest invisible damage reinforced by the Republic's Houbara obsession.

There is another fallout of this illegal and immoral yearly carnage. At the end of each killing season, there are scores of unregistered and non-duty paid vehicles carrying foreign number plates that the affluent visitors leave behind as gifts, bribe or charity to the local hosts and officials. The interest of the government, officials and the local facilitators in receiving these 'goodies' far supersedes their interest in protecting the Houbaras. Thousands of these gifted 'Houbara vehicles' driven by their new local owners proudly continue to ply on Pakistani roads without ever paying any tax or changing the foreign number plates. The police does not have the courage to check an impersonating 'Shaikh's vehicle'.



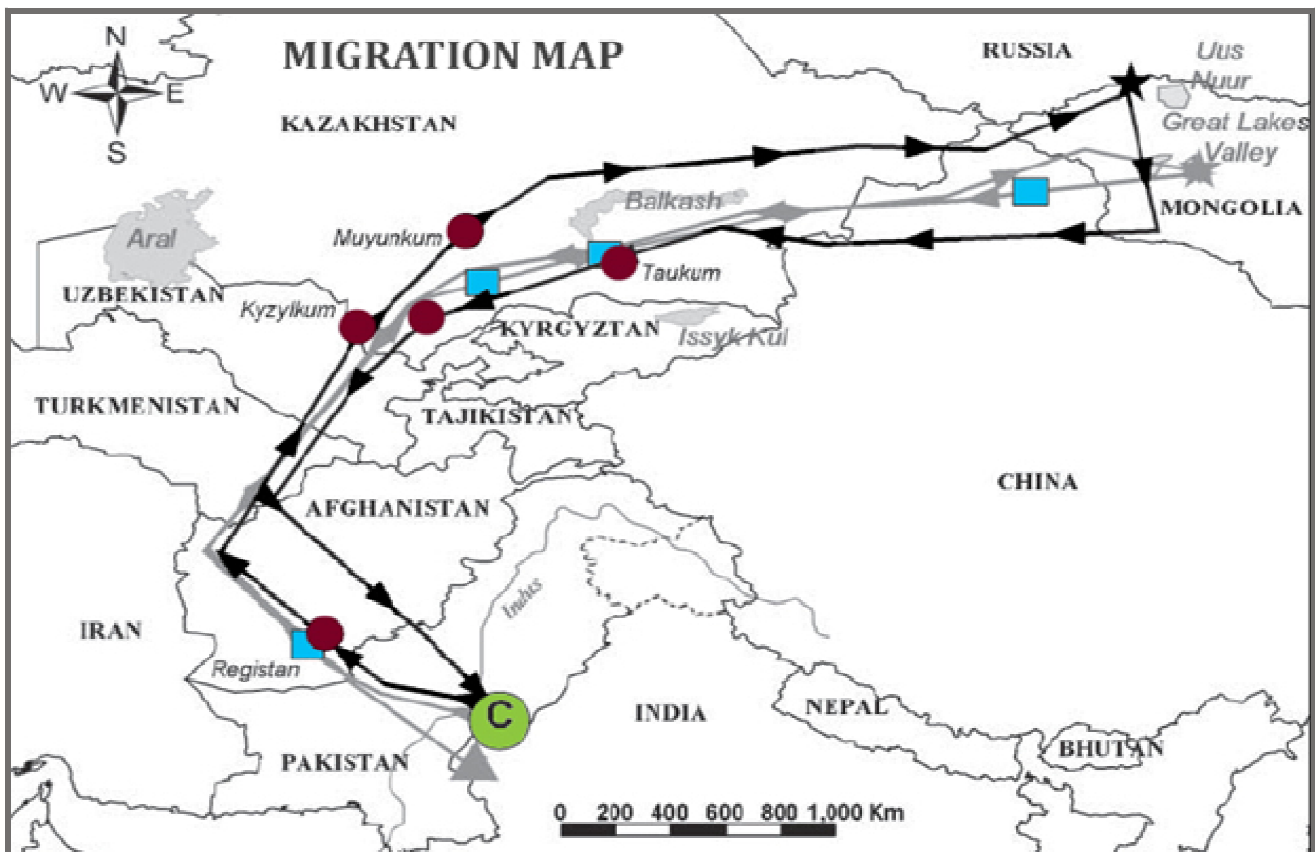


Besides its own laws, Pakistan is also bound by International Conventions such as Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) and the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild

Animals (CMS) to preserve and protect the dwindling population of Houbara bustards. Pakistan has not just failed to do so but actively contributed towards their extinction. These are serious considerations not just for the

courts but also for the collective conscience of the Pakistani nation.

Will the people of Pakistan raise their voice to impress upon their rulers that self-respecting and lawful behavior towards both Arabs and Houbaras will only improve our national stature? Countries that use gimmicks like declaring the Houbara bustards as the cornerstone of their foreign policy can neither be respected nor trusted as sane nations. Perhaps this is what Dr. Iqbal had in his mind while writing his famous verse, "Jo Shaakh-e-Naazuk Pe Aashiyana Banega Na-Payedar Hoga".



WATER ISSUE IN KARACHI



The Honorable Supreme Court of Pakistan (Karachi Registry) has in its order dated September 8, 2016 directed the Karachi Water and Sewerage Board to close down eleven (11) hydrants and float new tenders for the six (6) hydrants which will be operated in each district of Karachi.

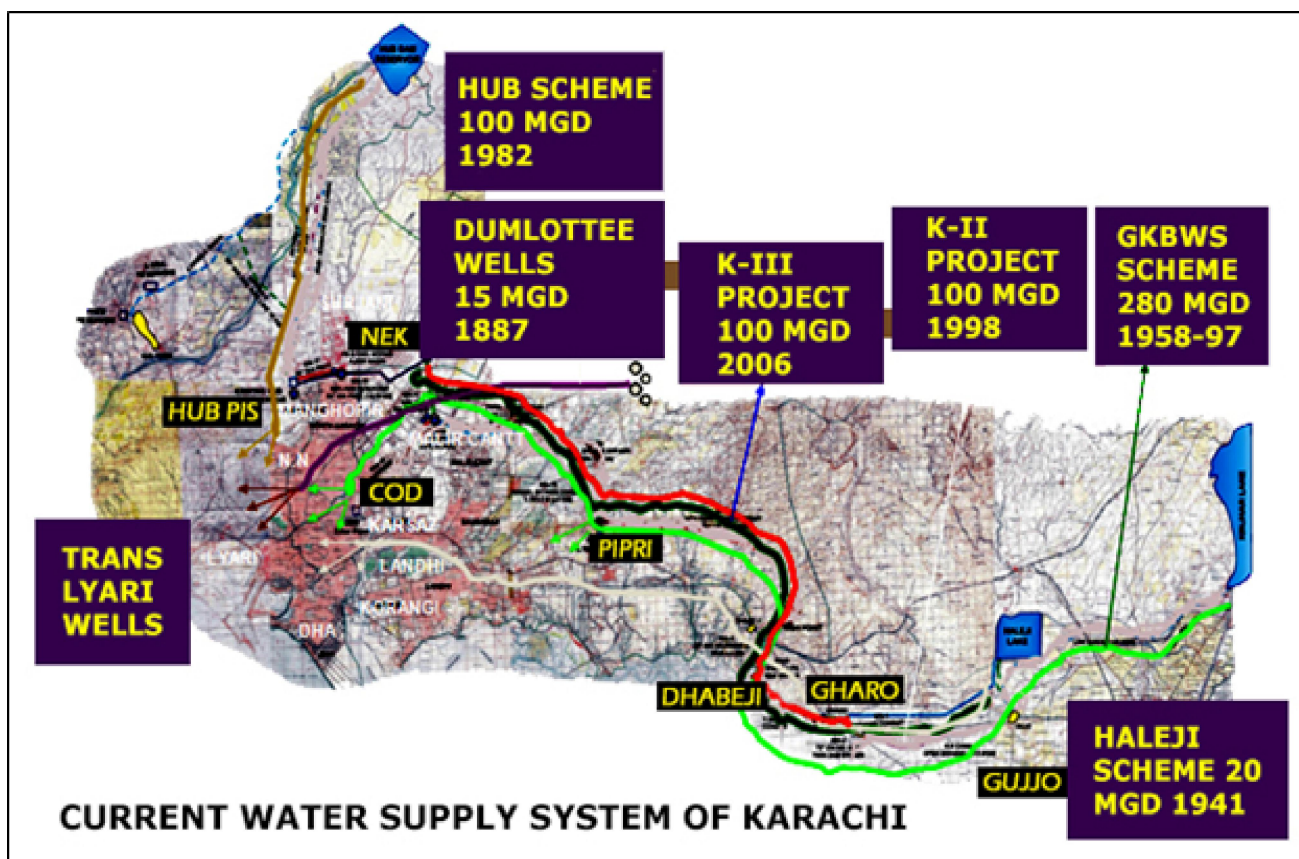
Shehri-CBE has been pursuing Court Case CP2884-2010 related to water crisis pending in the High Court of Sindh since

2012 and helping MPA Syed Hafeezuddin in his Supreme Court Case, whose order dated September 8, 2016 has triggered the Karachi Water and Sewerage Board to launch new tenders. Moreover, it has been in active communication with Karachi Water and Sewerage Board staff to overcome issues like effective and transparent tendering.

In light of this supreme court order, Shehri-CBE decided to bridge the gap between

communities (elected representatives and people), and service providers (KWSB officials, Bulk water suppliers and Tanker Companies) to solve the water issue in water starved areas.

The first consultation took place in Pahar Gunj on November 11, 2016. The residents of the area were invited to Christian Colony Community Centre to identify the causes and impact of water shortage in the vicinity.



It was discovered that due to illegal multiple water connections to the supply line dirty water and sewage pollutes the system. Moreover the elevation of the site also inhibits the gravity based water supply. It was suggested that the residents should write to the relevant authorities for allocation of special budget for Pahar Gunj to overcome the water crisis.



Consultation at Pahar Gunj, Karachi

The next consultation took place in North Karachi area. The tail end consumers complained of inadequate to no water supply. The citizens were encouraged to visit their local KWSB office and to register complaints so that their issues could be resolved. They were also provided contact details to ensure speedy communication.



Consultation at Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Karachi

Continuing the round of consultations, Shehri-CBE invited residents of Gulshan-e-Iqbal at St. Philips Catholic Church. The trustees of the church complained that despite their facility being decades old it does not have a water connection and relies on tankers. Neighbors also complained about water availability and frequency. The problems were noted by the KWSB officials, who promised help wherever possible.

where all stakeholders were invited to share their concerns and complaints with the KWSB senior management.

problems as soon as possible. However he said that Karachi needs 1.1 billion gallons per day while the supply stands at around half of this.



The final consultation for the year was arranged at Movenpick Hotel Karachi,

KWSB Managing Director Misbahuddin Farid directed the relevant officials to solve all infrastructure related

"We need more water to meet the demands of Karachi," said the Managing Director KWSB.

SHEHRI-CBE CONDUCTS SESSION WITH WOMEN ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION



Shehri-Citizens for a Better Environment, under the banner of Citizens' Voice for Strengthening Transparency and Accountability Mechanisms, organized a capacity building session for women on "Freedom of Information (FOI)" at a local hotel.

Dr. Syed Raza Ali Gardezi, FOI Project Manager welcomed the participants and introduced the aims and objectives of the workshop. He highlighted the active role Shehri-CBE has played to facilitate good governance by advocating transparency in government functioning, and informed and pro-active role of citizens in seeking protection of their

fundamental rights as enshrined in the constitution.

He gave a detailed introduction of FOI and stated that only Article 19(A) has the strength to empower citizens to a greater degree of transparency and accountability of the government. Describing the efficacy of freedom of information, he compared it to sunlight which is the best disinfectant.

Later, Research Officer Mrs. Saima Adeel explained about the applicability of the FOI law in terms of which type of state institutions can be asked to share data and what type of information can be accessed and what type



of information and record is exempt from disclosure.

A documentary on Right to Information was then shown to the trainees, which followed with a training segment "How to write an FOI application" with Ms. Syeda Humna Mehwish Al-Quadri.

She outlined the salient features of writing an FOI application, and steered the participants through a practical FOI application writing exercise.

Later, those applications were analyzed for accuracy and detail.

An interactive question answers session with the participants was finally conducted at the end of the workshop.



PAKISTAN FORUM ON DEMOCRATIC POLICING (2011-2016)



Pakistan lags behind most of the world when it comes to modern methods and systems of policing. Currently, Sindh is governed by a colonial era law "Police Act of 1861", while the rest of the country is governed by Police Act 2002. Realizing the importance of police reforms, civil societies from all over Pakistan, grouped together to lay the foundation of Pakistan Forum for Democratic Policing in 2011.

The forum was officially launched at a ceremony jointly organized by Rozan, Shehri-CBE, Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives, Aurat Foundation, Individual Land, Shirkat Gah, Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and Strengthening Participatory Organization.

Its agenda is to advocate the development of national and provincial constitutional frameworks, which enshrine true aspirations of democracy within the institution of police in order to improve their performance and

encourage accountability.

The new body aims to work together with representatives from media, judiciary, academia, and police to discourage nepotism and politics in the system of policing.



2nd Quarterly Meeting of the Pakistan Forum on Democratic Policing (PFDP) was organized under Rabta Police Program on August 4, 2016 at Islamabad Hotel, Islamabad.

Executive Director Rozan Mr. Babar Bashir shared the core idea of the forum which includes organization of policy dialogues, provision of technical assistance on police reforms, advocacy for police reforms, and building partnership with concerned groups. He specifically stressed on the need for proper research and analyses

framework for identifying gaps and requirements toward democratic policing.

Mr. Khatib Ahmed, Member Shehri-CBE, represented the organization in the forum. "Effective, efficient and

public-friendly police protects the fundamental right to security of citizens in a much better way," he emphasized during the meeting.

The working group also formulated a charter of demands to reform the policing sector in Pakistan. The group specifically mentioned the need for operational and financial responsibility, accountability, monitoring and evaluation of targets and performance, women in policing, and the image-building of police. The struggle continues to date.

SHEHRI - CITIZENS FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT



INTRODUCTION

Shehri- CBE is a Karachi-based voluntary advocacy group established by concerned citizens in 1988 to project their apprehensions about the deterioration of the built and natural environment.

There is a special emphasis on tackling illegal construction and zoning violations, and their related symptoms, e.g., drainage, encroachments, parking and infrastructure. Shehri monitors the regulatory bodies and government agencies and encourages civil society to do the same.

SUCSESSES

Passing of Sindh Senior Citizens Welfare Bill 2014 Demolition of Glass Towers illegal encroachment on the notified road-widening of Clifton Road.

Saving of 480-acre Gutter Baghicha Park on Manghopir Road. This is the largest open recreational space in a low income congested area of Lyari-inhabited by approximately one million people.

Saving of 62-acre Kidney hill Park in Karachi Cooperative Housing Society Union inclusive of 18-acre notified KWSB installations.

Establishment of the Oversee Committee of the KBCA and a

Public Information Counter.

Halting commercialization and sale of 11 KTC and 15 SRTC bus-depot plots in Karachi and Sindh. Today these plots are to be used by the CDGK for intercity bus terminals and other related transportation activity.

Saving (Makro) webb Ground playfield in Lines Area, Karachi.

Demolition of apartment structure Costa Linina in amenity Bagh-e-Ibne-Qasim, Clifton. CDGK has now developed it as a park.

Preventing commercialization of Doongi Ground park / playfield in Lahore.

Reducing, as part of Lahore Bachhao Tehrik, the amount of damage from Canal Bank Widening Project.

Reaffirmation of seismic building code in Quetta.

Training 1600 (Approx) police officers all over Pakistan on participatory citizen-police interaction, human rights violations and police reforms.

Over the years, Shehri's expertise has been recognized by superior courts and it has been called as amicus curiae (friend of the court) in cases dealing with built environment violations.

OBJECTIVES

Establishment of an aware and pro-active civil society, good governance, transparency and rule of law.

Promotion of research, documentation, dialogue with and influence of public policies.

Setting up an effective and representative local government system.

Preparation of a representative Master Plan / Zoning plan for Karachi city and effective implementation of the same.

Observance of basic human rights in society.

HOW IS SHEHRI RUN?

A volunteer Managing Committee, duly elected by the General Body for a term of two years, thereby functioning in an open and democratic manner. Membership is open to all who subscribe to its objectives and memorandum.

SHEHRI needs Volunteers

to work in the following areas:

- Legal Affair
- Media and Outreach
- Million Trees Campaign
- Conservation and Heritage
- Fund Raising
- Gun Free Society

Name: _____

Occupation: _____

Address: _____

Contact No.: _____

E-mail: _____

JOIN SHEHRI

To Create a Better Environment

Submit A Cross Cheque of PKR 1000/= in favor of Shehri-CBE Along with 2 passport size photos to become a member

Address: 88-R, Block-2, P.E.C.H.S., Karachi-75400.
Tel / Fax : 021-3453-0646

SHEHRI MEMBERSHIP

Don't forget to renew your membership for 2017 (Rs. 1000/=)

Join Shehri and play your role as a good citizen to make this city a clean, healthy and environmentally friendly place to live in!