Launch of the Khanewal district 2005 Social audit

Zila nazim Lasbela, zila nazim Khanewal, DCO Khanewal, DPO Khanewal and participants at report launch

14 February, 2006. The Khanewal zila nazim and District Government convened a meeting on 13 February 2006 to launch the report of the 2005 social audit in the district. Some 300 people participated, including zila nazims and government officials from other focus districts (Lasbela, Khairpur and Haripur), the DG of Local Government and Rural Development, Government of Punjab, the zila nazims of neighbouring districts, Members of the Provincial Assembly from Khanewal, tehsil nazims in Khanewal district, members of the district council (union nazims), district and tehsil government officials, and civil society representatives.

The CIET Pakistan programme manager gave an overview of the findings of the first district social audit in Khanewal. The 2005 Khanewal district social audit covered 2400 households, representing 17,316 people and giving results representative to tehsil level. The social audit focus was on preventive child health as well as covering other key public services. Khanewal is one of five districts in Pakistan which are undertaking, in collaboration with CIET, a detailed social audit process to support evidence-based district planning. The social audit collects information from the public about their use and experience of services as well as from service providers and other key informants, to help governments to plan and implement services tailored to the needs of their people.

The zila nazim Khanewal said that lack of relevant information is a major barrier for effective planning and committed to making use of the findings of the social audit in Khanewal. He noted, “The CIET social audit is a unique tool for local governance in Pakistan. The social audit in focus districts provides us with an insight into the views of our local citizens and gives district governments information that they need to improve services for all their citizens.”

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