

Case Study: Rehabilitation of Drainage Scheme of Hala Town

Taluka Hala is situated at the left bank of Indus River. The population of the reconstituted Taluka Hala is 1, 61,980 as per the census of the year 2000, while the population of Hala Town is approximately 45000.

Hala is one of the historical, literary, and religious spiritual town of Sindh. The town is also famous for its works of art, pottery, wood, cloth printing and weaving in various beautiful designs throughout the subcontinent. According to records Hala Town had been given the status of Taluka in the year 1848 A.D.

During the decade of 70s a drainage system was made functional which still exists in the town... But before the intervention of SDSSP in 2004-05 the drainage system, due to rapid increase in population and construction of new houses, was not fully functional causing the slug water of the area to overflow in the streets and main junctions of the town especially during the rainy season. The overflow caused much health and environmental problems for the people of the area.

To resolve the drainage problem, a Rehabilitation of Drainage Scheme was proposed which was later approved under SDSSP Grant for the year 2004-05.

The cost of the scheme was estimated at 3.10 millions, and was expected to cover 60% of town population. Work on the scheme was immediately started after the release of funds and it was completed in December 2005. The main focus of the work was to improve and extend the pumping station along with installing new pumping machines to dispose off the slug water properly. Previously the pumping machines were partially functional, but now they all are functional...

Mr Aftab Hussain Qambrani, who is one of the citizens of the most affected area, said that: "It is like a miracle. During the last heavy rains, we were surprised to see that there was no overflowing of the drainage water. In the past, we had experienced much overflowing of drainage water in our houses, streets daily and due to this we faced severe health problems especially our female community were mostly affected. During the last 5 to 6 years, all the educational activities of our students and the social activities of our community came to a halt due to this situation. Now the situation is totally different and I would like to appreciate the efforts of TMA Hala on this big achievement."

Ms. Sanam Mallah, a resident of Pir Moula Bux Colony Dargah Road Hala, also shared her views and said that: My age is 23 years and I am living here since 1988. I had faced a lot of problems including the overflow of the drainage water. I remember when I was in school going age and was not able to cross the street without my brothers' support because of the drainage water on the streets after even a light rainfall. Now the situation is changed and there is no drainage water on the streets even after a rainfall. The drainage system has improved and I am satisfied with the present system.

Another female citizen Ms. Abida Jaweed Baloch said that: I was living in Talib-ul-Moula Colony since my birth, but after my marriage, I am now living in Pir Moula Bux Colony Hala. I would like to share the condition of the drainage system in my previous area where I used to go to school, college and work. There was a regular 3 to 4 days of overflow of drainage water in that area. The local administration would clear the water but after 3 or 4 days the situation became the same. After rainfall, no one could cross the street without going in the water. Therefore I was not able to attend my classes regularly. Now the situation is totally different. I am now able to visit my parents' house twice a month due to the improved drainage system in that area. After the last rainfall, I called up my mother and inquired about the drainage system of the colony, she said that the situation is now changed and the drainage system has much improved so I can go there without difficulty.

This achievement was also appreciated by a renowned NGO of the area Mehran Socio Cultural Forum. In order to give honor and appreciation to the TMA Hala on the behalf of the citizens of Hala, the NGO organized an Appreciation Award Ceremony on October 9, 2006 at Hala...

During the program, Mr. Abid Mushtaque Soomro, a citizen of Talub-ul-Moula colony Hala and an activist of an NGO said that: "TMA Hala is one of the best TMA of Sindh Province and I have observed the TMA performance very closely. I remember that two years back the drainage system in the area was worse. There was frequent overflowing of drainage water on the streets of our colony and even the local administration was unable to handle the situation especially in rainy season. This situation was due to lack of proper drainage system and we have also seen the same situation after recent rainfalls in Latifabad (Hyderabad) where rainy water was flooding the streets because there was no proper drainage system and machineries. But now the situation in our area is totally different. After a heavy rainfall, we were happy to see that there was no overflowing drainage water in the streets and most of the area looked as if there was a light shower. All the credit goes to the leadership of TMA, who have made this happen through proper planning and commitment.

Mr. Ahmed Khaskeli another citizen of Makhdoom Amin Faheem Colony Hala, shared his view and said that: "We had no infrastructure such as roads and drainage system in our colony..The area is very far from the center of the city and therefore no attention was paid to provide proper infrastructures. There is a 7 feet deep hole in the center of the colony and it filled with water during the rainfalls. I went to Mr. Noor Din Sanai (TMO Hala) and informed him about the problems of our colony. He assured that he will solve our problems on urgent basis. Proving true to his commitment, he sent pumping machines to our area, the rain water was pumped from the hole and it was filled with sand. The drainage system was also repaired and improved. Now we are thankful that there are no such problems in our area.

Questionnaire for the Case Study

TMA HALA

Date:

Name of the Respondent:

Designation:

Name of the Scheme:

Location of the Scheme:

Starting Date:

Completion Date:

Total Length of the Scheme (Area covered):

Total amount allocated for the Scheme:

Total utilization of the amount to date:

Equipments or Machinery purchased:

Beneficiaries: a) Male:

b) Female:

Total:

Previous condition of the same scheme:

1. Fully functional (Satisfactory)
2. Functional but (Non-satisfactory)
3. Non functional
4. Others

(Give a brief note on the previous condition of the scheme) What was the main issue/problem?

What steps were taken to resolve the issue?

What is the difference between the previous and the present scheme?

Present Position/Status/Working of the Scheme (Impact):
(Brief Note)

Any other comments:

Questionnaire for the Case Study
Community Member

Date:

Name of the Respondent:

Occupation:

Age:

Sex:

Residence/ Mohalla / Colony:

Residing in the area since (year):

The issue related to the Scheme (Previous condition at his/her Mohalla related to the scheme in normal circumstances:

Present condition at his / her Mohalla:

Previous condition at his / her Mohalla (in rainy season)

Present condition after rain at his / her Mohalla (in rainy season)

Any other comments: