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**MINISTRY OF WOMEN DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL WELFARE AND SPECIAL EDUCATION
 GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
 AUGUST 1999**

QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION

Critical Areas of Concern	Examples of successful policies, programmes and projects to implement the critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action (Indicate any targets and strategies set and related achievements)	Examples of obstacles encountered/lessons learnt	Commitment to further action/new initiatives
I. Women and poverty	⇒ In order to involve women in productive economic activities, including exports, the Ministry is moving forward on a broad-based programme in collaboration with the Private sector. ⇒ An Export Trade House and Display Centre each has been established at Lahore and Islamabad. Similar ventures are proposed at Karachi, Quetta, Peshawar, Muzaffarabad and other major cities.	⇒ Women access to micro credit through existing public and private sectors windows is necessary. There are only two major formal sources of micro credit for women i.e. First Women Bank and ADBP.	⇒ Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund established by the Government of Pakistan for poverty alleviation will be playing the major role in micro credit. ⇒ State Bank of Pakistan has been requested to direct commercial banks, ADBP and SBFC to allocate 5% of their resources for micro credit and 30% of which should go to women for small business. ⇒ Women will also be given

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">⇒ To facilitate women entrepreneurs in their business activities both local and foreign, Business Centres in collaboration with the First Women Bank Limited (FWBL) have been established at Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi. Similar Centres are planned for Quetta, Peshawar and other major cities.⇒ The First Women Bank Limited (FWBL) is operating its 38 branches to facilitate banking and micro-credit schemes for women.⇒ Regional Development Finance Corporation (RDFC) has opened its credit line to fund projects for women.⇒ The Ministry has funded 266 Vocational Training Centres in the public and private sectors, including AJ&K. The Ministry now intends to convert these Vocational Centres into Production and Display Centres. Initially, Training Centres functioning in major cities are being selected for this upgradation.⇒ MoWD has provided a credit line of Rs.48 million to First Women Bank. These loans are utilised in boutique and tailoring, beauty parlours at small scale, bakeries,		representation on National Credit Consultative Council.
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	<p>catering, tuition centres, grocery and general stores and carpet weaving in urban areas. In rural areas these are utilised in cultivation, poultry, dairy and fish farming, livestock, general stores, tailoring etc. Disbursement of Rs. 142.146 million has created employment for 21,606 women.</p>		
<p>II. Education and Training of women</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Pakistan's first women university viz Fatima Jinnah University for Women was established in August 1998 at Rawalpindi. This University offers education in all disciplines including science and technological fields. ⇒ Five Women Study Centres have been established at Quaid-I-Azam University, Islamabad, University of Punjab, Lahore, University of Karachi, University of Peshawar and Balochistan University at Quetta. ⇒ Skill Development Training Centres for Women have been set up throughout the Country. ⇒ 40 Women Computer Training Centres were funded by MoWD. ⇒ 14 Women's Polytechnic Institutes have been 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Lack of awareness among women living in rural areas and urban areas. ⇒ Shortage of training facilities available for female. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Introduction of legislation to lift age barrier for teachers and female students and development of procedures for rejoining service under special considerations in formal system in rural and urban areas. ⇒ Introduction of legislation for Universal Primary Education. ⇒ Measures for the continuity of the scope of GO-NGO collaboration/partnership at all levels of policy making, project development and implementation of education and training programmes for women. ⇒ Under programme Pakistan 2010, Ministry of Education is planning to revise curriculum to eliminate gender stereotyped roles in the text books.

	<p>established in major cities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Ministry has provided funds for Working Women Hostels throughout the country. ⇒ Libraries in Faisalabad, Rawalpindi and Karachi, Science Laboratory in Rawalpindi and Quetta, Science Block in Islamia Degree College in Mian Channu, 12 literacy centres in Lahore have been established. ⇒ 1 Polytechnic Institute each in Punjab and Sindh and a Technical Training Institute in Lahore has been established. 		
<p>III. Women and Health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Pakistan has established an extensive health delivery system network, which is a mix of Government and private facilities, distributed all over the country. ⇒ The government owned health facilities at all levels are operated by public funds generated through internal revenues or external assistance. ⇒ The public health delivery system has three tiers (I) First Level Care Facilities i.e. BHUs, and RHCs for outpatient and limited in-patient services. Each BHU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Limited resource allocation on women's health ⇒ Lack of local women's involvement in promoting health care. ⇒ Lack of training institutions for nursing and para medical staff. ⇒ Lack of awareness about health education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Analysis and dissemination of gender disaggregated data on health, in general and women's health in particular. ⇒ Formulation and development of women sensitive policies. ⇒ Development of policies for public-private partnership on women's health. ⇒ Provision of basic health service throughout the country. ⇒ Strengthening and expansion of existing health care system. ⇒ Expansion of para-medical training facility.

	<p>serves 10,000 population, while each RHC gives primary health coverage to 25,000-50,000 population. (ii) A tehsil headquarters hospital (DHQ) with 100 or more beds provide secondary health services to a population of over 2 million people. They also offer first level referral services(iii) Tertiary Teaching hospitals located at provincial headquarters or big cities are attached to medical colleges and are well equipped for all kinds of health services at the tertiary level.</p> <p>There are also Mother and Child Health Centres and Civil dispensaries, which provide maternal and child health and family planning services. All these services are supported by several vertical programmes like the Prime Minister's programme, Malaria Control, Immunisation, Diarrhoeal Control, ARI etc. Local government and NGOs play an important role in the provision of health services. The government is the major provider of hospital services in the rural areas and preventive services through out the country.</p>		<p>⇒ Mass scale training of TBA (Traditional Birth Attendants).</p> <p>⇒ Increasing number of seats in the professional medical colleges.</p>
<p>IV. Violence Against Women</p>	<p>⇒ The Ministry has set up Crises Centres for Women in Distress in Islamabad and</p>	<p>⇒ Lack of awareness among women about legal rights.</p> <p>⇒ Lack of education about</p>	<p>⇒ Organisation of gender sensitising programmes of legislators, judiciary,</p>

	<p>Vehari. Two more centres have been established at Lahore and Sahiwal. Such Crisis Centres are being opened in other parts of the country as well. These are pilot projects. The overall objectives of the crisis Centres are to protect women against violence of all kinds and to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women. The short term objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ To provide temporary shelter/accommodation to victims of violence in emergencies. ⇒ To provide medical/first aid ⇒ To provide/arrange free legal assistance/aid ⇒ To investigate cases of violence/prepare case studies/to open Burn Units. ⇒ To liaise with agencies competent to redress grievances of women at individual and collective levels, especially those concerned with combating violence against women. ⇒ These Centres are being run round the clock by NGO Management Committee. ⇒ The Ministry has taken 	<p>the procedure for action against the offender.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Lack of gender sensitisation. ⇒ Shortage of rehabilitation (Mental and Physical) and recreational facilities. 	<p>administrators and social activists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Dissemination of translation of Jail Manual in Urdu among the female prisoners for information of their rights in jail ⇒ Setting up Legal aid/ Protection Centres at the work place. ⇒ Creating awareness through electronic/print media for the women folk about their legal rights.
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	<p>initiatives to raise awareness through the electronic & print media. Currently the women's Hour is highlighting the problems of violence against women.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">⇒ There are 14 Darul Amans in the country. These play the role of shelter homes for women who are forced to leave home because of unconducive circumstances.⇒ The Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs established a fund of 50 million for women in distress and detention to provide relief to the victims of violence. This Ministry is collaborating with Ministry of Law for proper utilisation of these fund in consultation with the provincial WDD and Home Departments.⇒ MoWD has constituted teams to visit all the jails in the country for regular monitoring of the situation of women so that the condition of women prisoners and children in jails can be improved.⇒ The Government has established Women Police Stations in major cities of the country to facilitate redressal of grievances.		
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	<p>⇒ There are 14 Darul Amans in the country. These play the role of shelter home for women who are forced to leave home because of unconducive circumstances.</p>		
V. Women and Armed Conflict	<p>⇒ The Government has increased allocation for promotion and undertaking of research on conditions and problems of women.</p>	<p>Women refugees shift from the refugee camp alongwith their male members. They can't be identified. The refugee families don't get their themselves registered at the appropriate place/office.</p>	<p>⇒ Promote presence of women and women's perspectives in national and international level for peace and nominate/select of women as peace negotiators. ⇒ Eliminate the production, trade, trafficking/smuggling and proliferation of weapons and carrying of arms.</p>
VI. Women and the Economy	<p>⇒ Five percent quota has been allocated in Employment in Provincial and Federal Government Departments, autonomous bodies and attached Departments ⇒ Industrial Homes have been established by MoWD ⇒ Export Trade Houses have been established in major cities ⇒ MoWD has provided a credit line of Rs. 48 million to First Women Bank, Rs. 30 million in 1991 and Rs. 18 million in 1993. ⇒ Working Women Hostels have been established by MoWD ⇒ Establishment of Day Care Centres ⇒ 12 Separate enclosure for</p>	<p>⇒ Shortage of educational and training facilities ⇒ Shortage of provision of necessary facilities to working women in the public and private sector. ⇒ Shortage of infrastructure. ⇒ Role of middle man. ⇒ Lack of awareness about marketing skills.</p>	<p>⇒ Inclusion of Women's Study as a subject at Graduate and postgraduate level ⇒ Income generating skill development centres have been established ⇒ Highlighting of the benefits of women in all programmes/PC-Is of concerned ministries</p>

	<p>women in open markets have been set up in Weekly Bazaars for economic empowerment of women and to encourage women entrepreneurs to undertake income generating activities for their betterment</p>		
<p>VII. Women in Power and Decision-Making</p>	<p>⇒ There has been widespread demand for the restoration of women's seats in the National and Provincial Assemblies. It is now proposed that :</p> <p>⇒ Principle of reservation of the seats for women in the National and Provincial be revived.</p> <p>⇒ The Women's seats should continue for a period of fifty (50) years unless continued longer by Act of Parliament.</p> <p>⇒ 33% seats be reserved for women in the National and Provincial Assemblies.</p> <p>⇒ 33% seats may also be reserved in the Senate and should be filled in by allocating them in the following manners:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Six additional seats from each province. b) At least two out of 8 seats of FATA. c) One out of three from the Federal Capital. d) One or two of the five 	<p>⇒ Lack of in service training of women at all in services training institutes</p> <p>⇒ Strict rule on age criteria for facilitating re-entry of women in to public sector</p>	<p>⇒ Creation of nuclear group of writers for surveying and evaluating the portrayal of girls and women that re-enforce/promote negative stereotypes</p> <p>⇒ Preparation of training schedule for Nikkah Registrar in accordance with MFLO and family marriage rules</p> <p>⇒ Preparation of a updated directory of support institutions such as training institutions, shelters legal aid centres, advisory services & service providers and assess their strength and weaknesses in the areas of disability</p> <p>⇒ Review existing laws/policies (including rules, notifications and procedures) that directly affect women's decision-making roles and recommend measures to remove obstacles in women's access to power and decision-making</p>

	<p>seats for Technocrats.</p> <p>⇒ The six additional seats from each province can be filled through immediate elections. All other seats should be filled on priority basis as seats in those categories fall vacant.</p> <p>In this regard summary has been sent to cabinet for approval.</p> <p>⇒ The Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development has at the instance of the Ministry of Women Development, Social Welfare and Special Education, initiated measures to increase the number of seats for women in the local bodies and Cabinet approved enhancement in the existing number of women's seats in Local Bodies by 100%.</p> <p>⇒ Focal points have been established in all key ministries to ensure that each Ministry accommodates women needs in the process of policy formulation.</p> <p>⇒ A directory of social scientists in Pakistan has been prepared</p>		<p>⇒ Document existing obstacles to women's decision-making and access to resources in the family and community through short-term consultancies</p>
<p>VIII. Institutional Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women</p>	<p>Following initiatives have been taken:</p> <p>⇒ Women Police Stations</p> <p>⇒ First Women Banks</p> <p>⇒ Export Trade Houses</p>	<p>⇒ Lack of needs assessment data for planning</p> <p>⇒ Lack of participation of women CBOs and women in CBOs in local</p>	<p>⇒ Finalisation of effective WID/GAD policy and action plans for gender integration</p> <p>⇒ Designing and Development of data base on women's</p>

	⇒ Women University	<p>institutions</p> <p>⇒ Lack of gender training for trainers</p> <p>⇒ Lack of Women's credit schemes within existing commercial banks and DFIs.</p> <p>⇒ Inadequate research on women's issues.</p>	<p>organisation and their activities</p> <p>⇒ Establishment of a permanent commission on the status of women</p>
IX. Human rights of Women	<p>⇒ Establishment of Crisis Centres in Islamabad and Vehari for Women in distress and detention</p> <p>⇒ Establishment of Women's Police Stations</p> <p>⇒ Grievances of Women. M/o Women Development takes notice of news/reports on grievances of women appearing in the press and follows-up with relevant authorities</p>	<p>⇒ Inadequate legal aid services</p> <p>⇒ There is no legal consciousness programmes for training different women's groups</p> <p>⇒ Lack of co-ordination and assistance for women in court procedures</p>	<p>⇒ Establishment of a committee for reform of personal status in all non-Muslim communities</p> <p>⇒ Training of all institutions dealing with women issues for existing and further cadre development</p> <p>⇒ Operationalisation of the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry for Women 1997</p> <p>⇒ Provision of constitutional rights and fulfilment of Pakistan's obligation under CEDAW</p>
X. Women and Media	<p>⇒ Introduction of Women's Hour on PTV</p> <p>⇒ Awareness raising programmes on women's issues telecast by PTV, Radio</p>	<p>⇒ Lack of awareness among media policy makers and staff members about gender issues.</p>	<p>⇒ Establishment of media Academy for diplomas refresher and orientation courses which provide exposure to women issues</p> <p>⇒ Setting up a National Press Council comprising citizen group specially women minorities and under-privileged to monitor the adherence to code of ethics</p>

<p>XI. Women and the Environment</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ M/o Environment and IUCN have agreed to organise workshops for the awareness environmental issues among the people. ⇒ MoWD notify the propose round table dialogue between all stakeholders in consultation with concerned agencies. ⇒ Participation of women in Conservation Strategy implementation.
<p>XII. The Girl Child</p>	<p>⇒ The National Plan of Action for the SAARC Decade of the Girl Child 1991-2000 AD which expresses Pakistan Government's commitment to improve the status and situation on the Girl Child has been prepared. It aims at progressively eliminating all forms of social discrimination and exploitation by way of creating opportunities for her advancement and protection of her rights.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Poverty amongst street children. ⇒ Gender biases against girl child. ⇒ Educational opportunities not equally accessible for girls. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Introduction and enforcement of constitutional provisions and legislation on rights to health of the girl child including preventive and curative health. ⇒ Undertake media campaign to remove attitudinal barriers. ⇒ Review all Laws and identify discrimination, lobby for repeal and revisions