

Villagers Demand Quality Edu., AEO made accountable Case Study Rawalpindi

ASER encourage the community to raise their voice and consequently let someone to be accountable for whatever is lacking

During the pre-baithaks of Rawalpindi District, the locale of baithaks was very much sensitized. People were curious to know about the results even they were too conscious to let the person to be accountable for such miserable situation about learning levels.

In Gujjar Khan, ASER Team conducted a baithak with the mutual consultation of AEO Raja Ikhlak Ahmed and the influential's of that village who were present in the pre-Baithak. When the Baithak get started, at first one of the villagers, looking irritated come and start complaining about the behavior of Govt. school administration. He protested that teachers didn't give admission to his grandsons. AEO Raja Ikhlak Ahmed said that he would look into this matter and would make sure that his grand children get admission.

Another man, after looking at the learning levels of the village said that he already realized that children were not learning much in schools and had raised this objection to the school teachers and complaint against Head Teacher and one other school teacher. He said that his children go to school but learn nothing, due to bad behavior of teacher his boy has been failing for two consecutive years. Raja Ikhlak Ahmed AEO Gujjar Khan tried to intervene and stop that man but he didn't listen to anyone and continued. He grumbled that, he will write a letter to CM Punjab if teachers will not do hard work and teach the children in true spirit. He further added that Head Teachers also exploit their children for the sake of incentive and receives different things as rewards to teach their children. He added that last week they have give two bundles of husk (chaff) for animals, to the head teacher on his demand, but again he is demanding some more bundles of husk (chaff) for the sake of tuition fee.

Soon everybody start arguing about different issues. We asked AEO to stand and answer the people. He said that he has taken all the matters into notice and will take action against them

AEO has become aware about the behavior of Head teacher through villagers, so he advise the villagers that in future if the head teacher of any school charges anything from them they can just come to his office and give a written application. He has also taken notice against the problems being faced by parents during admissions of children. He is committed to visit schools more regularly to ensure no malpractice is taking place anywhere. Furthermore, complaints about the non functional toilets and broken gate of the schools are also addressed as AEO has committed to provide for more funds in the next financial year.

The baithak sensitized the villagers and the influentials/chaudharies of that village. Also Chaudhary Muhammad Ashraf Gujjar Numberdar of that village is made aware of these problems and he has also committed to ensure that quality of education is not compromised in his village. Moreover, he has voluntarily offered bricks and cement for the construction of one toilet for female students and one for male students separately in both primary sections of the school.

ASER really brought the issues of education in the forefront and made the AEO and Head Teachers accountable to the community. The sensitized community raised its voice and demanded action and that is what it got.

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