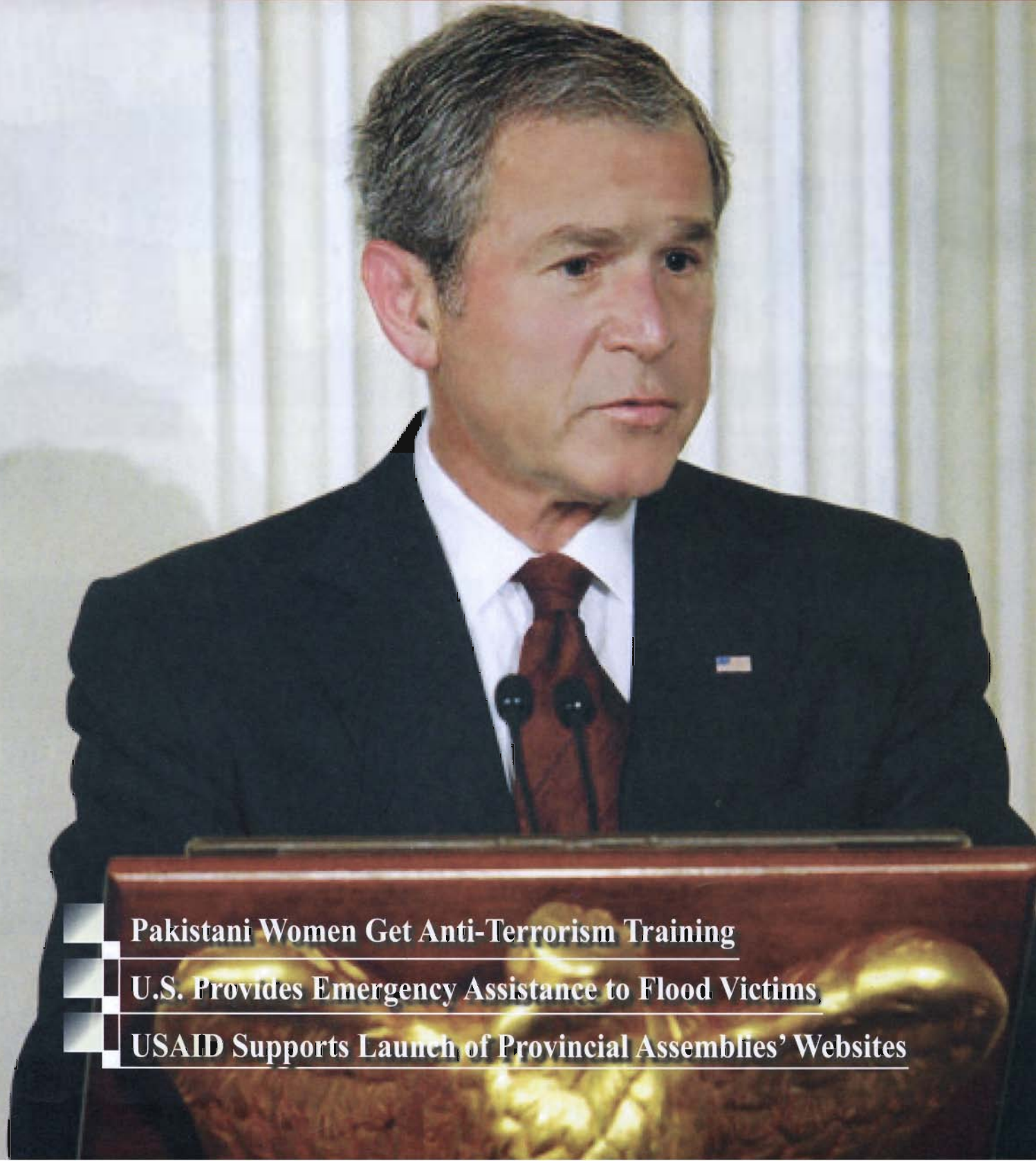


Khabr-o-Nazar

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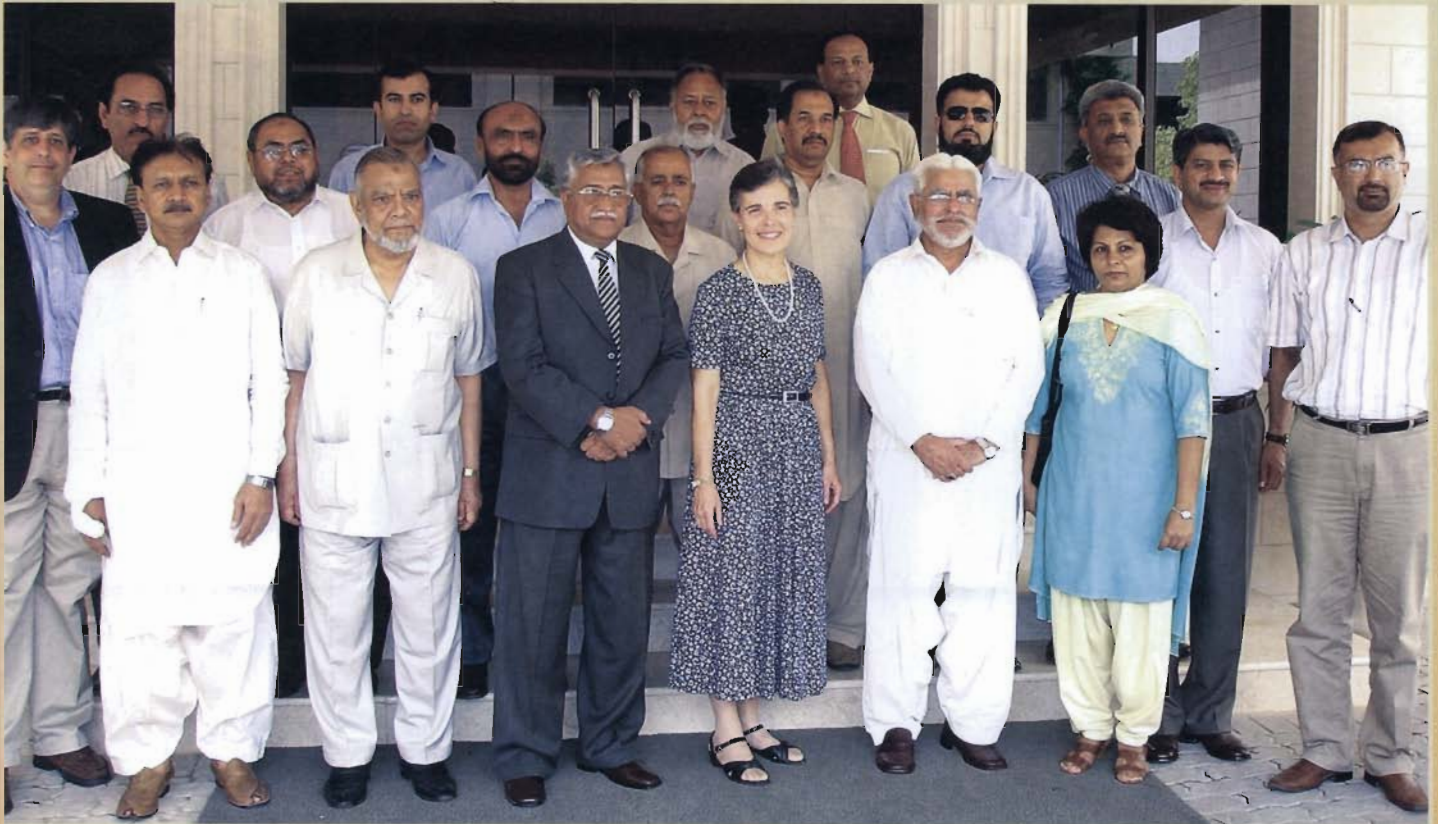
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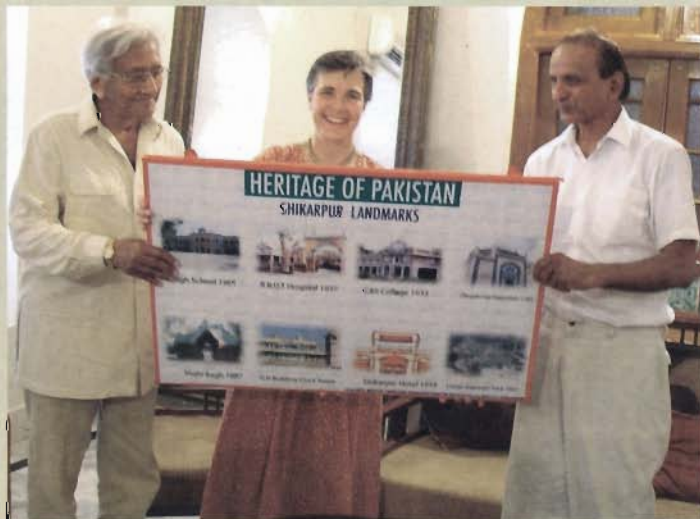
Pakistani Women Get Anti-Terrorism Training

U.S. Provides Emergency Assistance to Flood Victims

USAID Supports Launch of Provincial Assemblies' Websites



US Consul General Kay Anske with the officer-bearers of Sukkur Chambers of Commerce and Industry after her visit to the chamber's office in Sukkur.



Senior Pakistan Peoples Party leader MNA Aftab Shaban Mirani and Researcher Naseem Mughul presenting 'Heritage of Pakistan' photographs of Shikarpur city to the U.S. Consul General Kay L. Anske during her visit to Shikarpur.



US Consul General Kay Anske talking to media after holding a meeting with District Nazim Sukkur Syed Nasir Hussain Shah at his office in Sukkur.

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Cover

President George W. Bush welcomes guests to the Iftaar Dinner with Ambassadors and Muslim leaders in the State Dining Room of the White House, Thursday, Sept. 17, 2008, to celebrate the traditions of Islamic faith and culture. (White House photo by Chris Greenberg)

Letters to the Editor



Attractiveness

The beautiful getup and the colorful pages of Khabr-o-Nazar add to its attractiveness. I'm pleased to see the picture of prominent actor Jamal Shah in your magazine. Jamal Shah and I are from the same town. After reading about the services of the U.S. assistance, it is essential to express our gratitude. However, the United States will have to do a lot for the backward province of Balochistan. If it sets up higher educational institutions in our province, we can make use of the U.S. programs in a much better way.

Shahbaz Chakar
Quetta

Goodwill

American Senator Feingold visited the earthquake-affected areas on May 28, and reviewed the reconstruction programs himself. Such acts and visits play a vital role in harboring goodwill, affection and mutual understanding among nations. I would like to request you to publish the biographical sketches of the contributing writers of your magazine.

Turray Baz Gul Yousaf Zai
Killah Abdullah, Chaman

Will Certainly Help

A viable economy, and strong defense system guarantee stability of a country in the 21st century. The U.S. has provided 14 F-16 fighter jets recently. This addition will certainly help strengthen Pakistan's defense. The American supply of the state-of-the-art arms demonstrates importance that it gives to Pakistan.

Asif Ansari
Jamshoro

Impartial

Khabr-o-Nazar is an impartial magazine that shows the true picture of the United States. The U.S. is a philanthropic, democratic and secular country, where everyone has equal rights. We are proud of Pak-U.S. friendship.

Shaharyar,
Gujranwala



Pakistani Women Get Anti-Terrorism Training

Course Organized Under Department of State's Anti-Terrorism Assistance Program

Ambassador Anne W. Patterson complimented the “dedication and determination” of the women participants of the six-week Crisis Response Team Course (CRTC), organized by the Department of State Anti Terrorism Assistance Program which concluded in Islamabad on August 21. Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani presented certificates to the participants.

The CRTC was designed for a 12-member team and taught the participants the principles

of organization, commanding and conducting hostage rescue operation. It also focused on intervention tactics in stronghold assault situations. The course provided the participants with basic skills to resolve high-risk terrorist confrontations using a variety of options while employing the minimum force necessary to protect human life and to limit collateral damage.

“You brave women will encounter a greater threat here than your counterparts in most countries. Police and security forces of

Pakistan sacrifice their lives every day to prevent suicide bombings and other attacks,” Ambassador Patterson remarked while speaking at the graduation ceremony. “I commend your courage and your dedication. I also salute your families who understandably are apprehensive but surely also very proud of the work you have undertaken.”

The course also represented a successful partnership between Pakistan and the United States. Around the world, the Diplomatic Security Anti-Terrorism Assistance

Anti-Terrorism Training

Program brings together counter-terrorism experts from the United States and partner nations to work and learn together, fostering cooperation and coordination of counter-terrorism efforts.

Since its inception, Pakistan ATA has successfully conducted over 90 intensive antiterrorist courses of instructions and trained over 1500 Pakistani officials and law enforcement officers. This program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, provided training, equipment, and technology targeted to respond most effectively to the security situation in Pakistan.

“We share the Government of Pakistan’s goal to detect, deny, defeat, capture, and prosecute terrorists and their organizations,” the American Ambassador said.

Speaking on the occasion, Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani said that Pakistan is a fore-runner state in the war against terrorism, adding that it was high time to confront the worst threats before they emerge.

“The war on terror cannot be won on defensive. We have to take the battle to the doorsteps of the extremists,” the Prime Minister emphasized.

Referring to the CRTC, the Prime Minister hoped that training and orientation of the program involving latest trends, knowledge and equipment would add impetus to the talent of the participants.

Chief Security Officer of Prime Minister Secretariat Syed Kaleem Imam highlighted the importance of training courses for the law enforcing personnel to help them get better understanding about the complex issue of terrorism.

The Acting Director of Anti-Terrorism Assistance Program, Lynnda Tibbetts, declared the course a “tremendous success.”



Participants of the Crisis Response Team Course.



Daniel S. Sullivan talking to journalists in Islamabad.

Senior U.S. Officials Visit Earthquake-Hit Areas in Muzaffarabad

Also Visit Lahore School of Economics

The United States Assistant Secretary of State for Economic, Energy and Business Affairs, Daniel S. Sullivan, and the Acting Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for South Asia, Claudio Lillienfeld, visited earthquake affected areas in Muzaffarabad region on August 10 to assess the progress of the U.S.-supported reconstruction work and discuss strategies to bolster economic development.

Assistant Secretary Sullivan, who last visited Muzaffarabad in 2006, met with Chief Secretary of AJK, Javed Majeed, and Muzaffarabad Development Authority Chairman Zahid Amin.

Secretary Sullivan also visited the Makri Park, which was constructed with support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). In April 2006, USAID funded a \$1.7 million project to remove debris from the city of Muzaffarabad; the project cleared 8.5 million cubic feet of rubble from the town center and deposited it at the government-designated landfill of Makri, a ravine on the bank of the Neelum river.

Assistant Secretary Daniel S. Sullivan emphasized “the strong and vibrant US-Pakistan bilateral trade relationship” during his visit to the Lahore School of Economics on August 12.

Speaking with students and faculty of the Lahore School of Economics, Assistant Secretary Sullivan stated that “the health of U.S. economy is also vitally dependent on the growth and development of those countries with which we trade and invest.”

Assistant Secretary Sullivan was received at the Lahore School of Economics by Rector Dr. Shahid Amjad Chaudhry. Following his remarks, Assistant Secretary Sullivan responded to student and faculty’s queries on the United States-Pakistan bilateral economic relationship.

During his visit to Lahore, Assistant Secretary Sullivan also met with Punjab Finance Minister Tanveer Ashraf Kaira and held separate meetings with representatives of the business community.



The United States Assistant Secretary of State for Economic, Energy and Business Affairs, Mr. Daniel S. Sullivan visited earthquake affected areas in Pakistan’s Muzaffarabad region to assess the progress of the U.S.-supported reconstruction work.





Joint Communiqué: United States - Pakistan Economic Dialogue

Foreign Affairs, Agriculture, Interior, Labor, Law and Justice, Water and Power, Education, the Board of Investment, and the State Bank of Pakistan, as well as Pakistan's Economic Minister to the United States, participated. They were joined by officials

access to exports from businesses in these areas and create employment opportunities for the border regions.

Trade liberalization, protection of intellectual property rights, and labor issues, all aimed at fostering increased economic opportunities, were also discussed. Useful discussions about the issues that remain in concluding a BIT, which would promote a more open, transparent, and predictable business climate, were discussed as well. We agreed that the United States and Pakistan have a strong interest in resuming BIT negotiations and that our investment experts should meet as soon as possible to do so. Ways to increase the opportunity for Pakistani students to study at U.S. universities, including through expanding scholarship opportunities, were considered, and we agreed to pursue the matter further.

Recognizing rising world fuel and food prices, policy measures already taken by the GOP to cope with rising prices and ways in which bilateral cooperation in energy and agriculture could be strengthened, in particular increasing capacity and attracting greater U.S. investment in the these areas. The two parties spoke of positive steps to better address matters relating to eliminating terrorism financing networks and strengthening Pakistan's Money Laundering Ordinance. There was also discussion about ways to strengthen GOP efforts for sustainable socio-economic development of the border areas.

The two delegations agreed to meet again in 2009 in the United States.

from the U.S. Departments of State, Commerce, Treasury, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the U.S. Embassy.

The two delegations discussed Pakistan's macroeconomic policies, including fiscal and monetary reforms and social safety net measures the GOP has taken and plans to take to promote economic growth, provide protection to vulnerable groups, and increase prosperity of all Pakistanis. The United States and Pakistan agreed on the importance of GOP measures to stabilize the economy, to adhere to the announced macroeconomic policy and targets, and to continue Pakistan's structural reforms, including monetary and fiscal policy adjustments. A fruitful discussion was held on establishing Reconstruction Opportunity Zones, which will facilitate job creation and economic development in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas, North West Frontier Province, the earthquake-affected areas of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, and Balochistan within 100 miles of the Afghan border. The Reconstruction Opportunity Zones will provide greater market

Islamabad - Following is the text of the Joint Communiqué issued at the conclusion of the U.S.-Pakistan Economic Dialogue on August 11, 2008.

The third Pakistan-U.S. Economic Dialogue was held today under the co-chairmanship of Pakistan's Minister of Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, and Statistics, Syed Naveed Qamar, and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Economic, Energy and Business Affairs Daniel S. Sullivan. The Dialogue sought to deepen the U.S.-Pakistan economic partnership and further develop a long-term, broad-based economic relationship that mutually benefits the citizens of our two countries. The two sides discussed a wide-ranging agenda, including macroeconomic policy, labor, intellectual property rights, energy, agricultural cooperation, eliminating terrorism financing networks, Reconstruction Opportunity Zones, a GOP scholarship proposal, foreign assistance and FATA development, regional cooperation and transit trade, private sector cooperation, and a Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT). Representatives from Pakistan's Ministries of Finance, Commerce,



Political Officer Darrin MacKinnon, and Assistant Public Affairs Officer Roya Miller talking to the PTV host Abasin Yousafzai in a program to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Peshawar Consulate

Crossing the Language Barrier ...

Pashto-speaking American officers of Peshawar Consulate participated in a Pashto television program on Pakistan Television (PTV) to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Peshawar Consulate. During the program, Assistant Public Affairs Officer Roya Miller and Political Officer Darrin MacKinnon discussed the cultural bridges that have been built between the community and the Consulate over the last 50 years, including the initiative to train American officers deputed at Peshawar Consulate to speak Pashto.

“The themes of music are universal” said MacKinnon. The officers chose three Pashto music videos to play and discussed how music overcomes national boundaries. Miller noted that by exploring the music of another culture, people can get a better understanding of each others traditions and values.

PTV is the only broadcast channel in Pakistan’s Federally Administrated Tribal Areas (FATA). The program, conducted entirely in Pashto, was viewed all over Pakistan including the NWFP, the Frontier Regions, and FATA.





U.S. Consulate Lahore Principal Officer Bryan D. Hunt presenting a cheque of \$50,000 to the Inspector General of Punjab Police to help flood relief operations in Rajanpur.

U.S. Provides Emergency Assistance to Flood Victims

The United States Government, through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), provided \$50,000 in emergency relief to people in flood-affected areas of the North West Frontier Province (NWFP) and an equivalent amount to the Punjab Police force which assisted with flood relief operations in Rajanpur.

The assistance amount for NWFP flood victims provided jerry cans and tankered potable water, kerosene lamps, cooking stoves, fuel, and kitchen utensils to

approximately 5,400 individuals or some 900 households in Patwar Bala and Patwar Payen of Peshawar district. The assistance package for the Punjab police force will primarily be used to buy fuel and repair police vehicles that are being used in support of flood relief operations and that help provide security for those displaced by flooding in Rajanpur.

“The United States extends its condolences to the families affected by this terrible disaster,” said U.S. Ambassador Anne W. Patterson in Islamabad on August 11. “This

assistance from the American people will provide essential items to help the flood victims. We stand by you in this trying time.”

The relief assistance USAID provided was crucial in the early stages of a natural disaster to avert further injury or loss of life. USAID has provided similar assistance to Pakistan during flooding in 2003, 2005 and 2007. Immediately following the October 2005 earthquake, USAID provided relief that saved lives in the earthquake-affected areas. It has since helped rebuild some of the hardest-hit areas.



26 Pakistani Students Embark on Education Program to U.S.

The Mission Director of United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Anne Aarnes, underlined the need for buildings “cross-cultural understanding” and termed the exchange programs as the “first step of broadening world view” of the participating students.

“I know your parents and teachers are proud of your high academic achievements and your selection for this program,” said Ms. Aarnes while speaking at a send-off ceremony organized in Islamabad on August 13 for the 26 Pakistani high school students who were selected for a two-week science and technology exchange program in Washington.

The exchange program is part the USAID’s \$90 million Links to Learning (ED-LINKS) program which will teach the students web development, digital photography and video production. The first batch of students (14 boys and 12 girls) under this program represents both rural and urban areas of Islamabad Capital Territory.

“You are going to have once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience American life firsthand, while also learning more about the latest information technology,” USAID’s Aarnes said. “I know that you will be proud and effective representatives of Pakistan, and that you will form rewarding

friendships with the American students and teachers you meet.”

ED-LINKS will send up to 30 students each from Balochistan, Sindh and the Islamabad Capital Territory every year. Students are selected based on merit from underprivileged households in these areas. The ED-LINKS program works in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Government of Pakistan.

Since 2002, the U.S. Government through USAID has provided more than \$2 billion to Pakistan to improve economic growth, education, health, and governance and to assist with earthquake reconstruction.

USAID Pakistan Mission Director Anne Aarnes and Additional Secretary of Ministry of Education Shahid Ahmed are grouped together with students who embarked on a two-week USAID education program to Washington



