

**Dear Readers,**

Our May 2016 newsletter points out activities, success stories and workshops organized during the whole month which gave us a great advantage to interact with young people, students and share knowledge and ideas among them. SSDO aims to build a strong community of young volunteers who are fully aware of their rights and duties to approach towards an exemplary society.

**Awareness Camp for construction of two degree colleges in Dhoke Syedan, Rawalpindi**

SSDO placed a camp at Dhoke Syedan chowk to bring all the stakeholders to one platform for construction of two degree colleges which are under construction since a decade. The camp was attended by large number of local residents along with all local political stake holders and elected members of local, provincial and national assembly. The camp was covered by all leading print and electronic media channels and newspapers.

**Success Story:**

The campaign for Dhoke Syedan Degree Colleges was quite successful, Member of National Assembly Malik Abrar Ahmed attended the camp and announced that the construction of both colleges will be started in seven days. He also promised to commence the classes in both colleges from September 2016. A week later to the camp placement and meetings, the work on the colleges started that has been pending since a decade. SSDO takes huge pride in achieving this landmark.



Syed Kausar Abbas, Executive Director SSDO Addressing the audience in camp

**Workshop for media students on Right to Information and Investigative Journalism**

SSDO in collaboration of Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) organized a one day workshop for media students on Right to Information and Investigative Journalism in Pakistan. The purpose of the event was to spread awareness about RTI law and to engage students for effective use of Right to Information Laws to make the public offices accountable and transparent to citizens'.



Media students attending workshop on Right to Information and Investigative Journalism

Activities Conducted During this Month

**Seminar on World Press Freedom Day 2016:**

SSDO in collaboration of Associated Press of Pakistan Corporation and Preston University organized a seminar on 'Right to Information and Investigative Journalism in Pakistan' on the occasion of World Press Freedom on May 03, 2016. The event was attended by large number of students of media and communication studies from National University of Modern Languages (NUML), Islamic International University boys and girls campus, Arid Agriculture University, Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto University, Bahria University and Riphah Institute of Media Studies. The event was chaired by eminent media persons representing the electronic and print media Dr. Moeed Pirzada - Editor of Strategic Affairs (Dunya News Islamabad), Mr. Masood Malik - Managing Director of Associated Press of Pakistan Corporation (APPC), Syed Kausar Abbas - Executive Director (SSDO), Mr. Abdul Mateen - Information Commissioner Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Dr. A. W. Baloch Registrar Preston University. The session was quiet interactive and generated debate on freedom of press and use of Right to Information laws in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

**Showcasing of SSDO Work in Civic Education Conference Tunisia:**

A conference on civic education was organized by Goethe Institute, Germany, Tahrir Lounge, Egypt and Federal Agency for Civic Education, Germany on May 13-16, 2016 in Tunisia. The conference was attended by almost 300 participants from Europe and Middle East. SSDO got a chance to present its work on civic rights of citizens' in Pakistan. The participants of conference visited the showcasing camp and appreciated the efforts of SSDO to promote civic rights of citizens' in Pakistan.



Syed Kausar Abbas Executive Director SSDO, Dr. Moeed Pirzada Director Strategic Affairs Dunya News addressing the audience of a seminar