

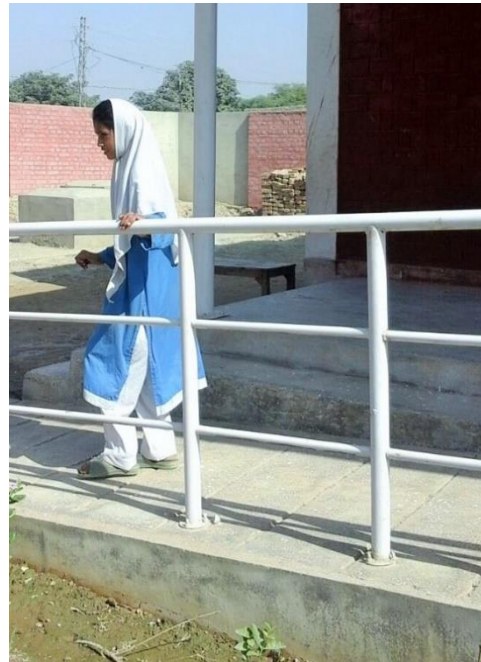
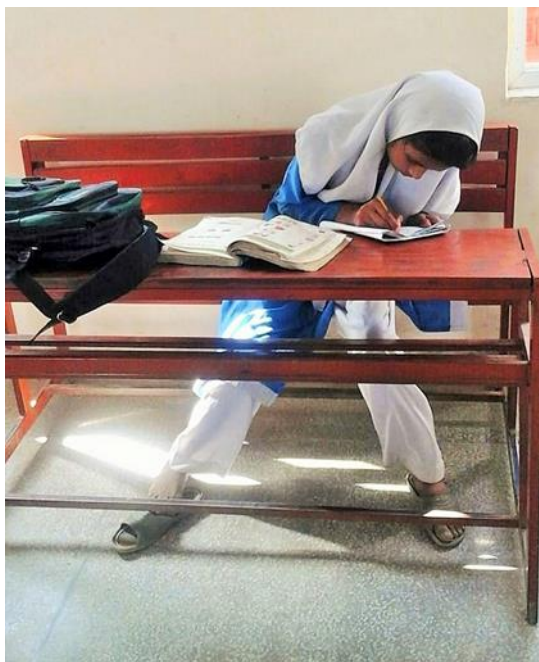
Slight Modification in School's Infrastructure Enhances in Punjab Province

UK aid through Humqadam School Construction and Rehabilitation Programme (SCRP) is facilitating young girls with mobility impairment to attend school in Punjab province.

Misbah Mukhtiar is a 10 year old girl and a student of grade 5 at Government Girls Elementary School (GGES) Muradabad Janubi, District Muzaffargarh, Punjab province. Misbah has limited mobility due to polio. She faces difficulties in carrying out daily chores all by herself. To attend school, Misbah requires the assistance of her school fellows.

Located in agricultural region in Muzaffargarh District, GGES Muradabad Janobi is one of the few schools in the area for miles. Humqadam-SCRP interventions in this school began in 2015 with construction of an entire new building block with seven new classrooms and three toilets. The new academic block includes a ramp and a wheel-chair accessible toilet in efforts to foster an inclusive learning culture.

"I do not want my disability to be an inhibitor in getting education, which is how I felt when coming to the school. I used to always rely on my school fellows for assistance at the school premises and using the toilet. I used to often wonder if I would ever feel accepted at all.



Misbah is now an ambitious and an enthusiastic student as she feels like an important part of the educational space at the school;

Photo credits: Tahir, Muzaffargarh/Humqadam

It is very liberating to know that I can easily navigate through the school now in the new building. It is a big step towards girls' education, particularly ones like myself," stated Misbah –a student of grade 5.

The new school building with ramps and wheelchair accessible toilets have signalled a greater positive change, not just for Misbah but many others who shy away from education due to their disability.

GGES Muradabad Janobi is only one of 469 completed schools in Muzaffargarh where mobility impaired can now enjoy equal access in mainstream schools.

Humqadam-SCRIP is the largest UK aid infrastructure programme in the world. With an aim to improve infrastructure in government schools in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces of Pakistan, Humqadam-SCRIP has constructed **1,151** new classrooms and rehabilitated **881** classrooms in **392** schools (as of October 2017). This programme is a part of the **£420** million [Punjab Education Support Programme \(PESP\) II](#) and the **£283** million [Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Education Sector Programme \(KESP\)](#), large and ambitious programmes which represent a collaborative effort between DFID, Australian Aid, and the provincial governments to result in more children in school and better learning outcomes.