

Government of Pakistan

Prime Minister's Office

Youth Affairs Wing

Islamabad 5th December 2022

Prime Minister's Youth Programme in collaboration with MilKar Pakistan held Flood Heroes Awards at Prime Minister's Office.

Islamabad, Pakistan: Prime Minister's Youth Programme in collaboration with MilKar Pakistan held Flood Heroes Awards at Prime Minister's Office. Minister of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Mr. Ahsan Iqbal and Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Youth Affairs Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja distributed awards to 50 young volunteers from across the country who have worked to help flood-affected people in their communities.

In her address, SAPM Shaza appreciated the efforts of volunteers across the country and stated that volunteers nationwide have played a massive role in helping victims of floods get through these difficult circumstances. Unfortunately, the concept of volunteerism or community work is still not as dominant among our youth as it should be. In fact, "the statistics are dismal", she said. She then announced that under Prime Minister's Youth Programme's "Engagement" goal, the program will be focusing on promoting volunteerism among the youth.

In his address, the Minister of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Mr. Ahsan Iqbal stated that this year Pakistan has gone through serious disasters that have devastated the country. However, Pakistanis have always come together to support each other and rebuild stronger than ever. This year, volunteers across the country have played an integral role in helping flood victims. He also announced that as Minister of Planning, his goal is to highlight community service in all universities and make that one of the top priority areas moving forward.

Head of the MilKar Volunteer Programme, Mr. Hadi Saif spoke of the abysmal figures that show our country's situation. "Governments have come and gone but these issues remain unaddressed", he said in his address. "However, we at Milkar believe that this can change if Pakistan can co-opt its biggest asset - its youth - to solve these challenges".

He went on to appreciate Prime Minister's Youth Programme and SAPM Shaza Fatima for her efforts in supporting the youth and promoting healthy engagement in the country like volunteerism. He also appreciated the efforts of the hundreds of volunteers who have spent their time and effort this year to support fellow citizens in devastating conditions.

The event concluded with the distribution of awards to 50 volunteers whose work has been instrumental in alleviating the effects of floods across Pakistan.