

**Government of Pakistan  
Ministry of Environment  
(Ozone Cell)**

**Year Book-2009- Montreal Protocol Project (Ozone Cell)**

The UN General Assembly in 1995 declared September 16 as the “International Day for the preservation of the Ozone Layer” to mark the signing of the historic Montreal Protocol. 196 members to the Montreal Protocol including Pakistan observe this day every year to renew their commitments for the protection of Ozone Layer. This year’s theme of the International Ozone Day for the preservation of Ozone Layer was **“Universal Participation: Ozone Protection Unifies the World”**. It called upon all the members of the Montreal Protocol to continue their collaborative efforts for the protection of ozone layer for the sake of our existing and future generations

This year the Ozone Cell celebrated the International Ozone Day in three parts due to holy month of Ramadan. On 16<sup>th</sup> September, Ozone Cell published special newspapers’ ads and news articles as well as arranged special programmes through electronic media to create awareness among the members of the civil society on the significance of the Ozone Layer. On 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2009 Ozone Cell held speech and arts competitions at Aabpara Community Centre, Islamabad among students belonging to 20 prominent academic institutions from twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi. 63 students participated in speech competition, while 55 took part in arts competition. The students from Islamabad Model College for Boys I-8/3, Islamabad, Sir Syed Public School, Tipu Raod, Rawalpindi, Siddeeq Public School, 6<sup>th</sup> Road, Satellite town, Rawalpindi and Headstart School-Girls Br., 15, School Road, F-6/1, Islamabad secured 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> position respectively in speech competition, while Islamabad Model College for Girls, I-10/4, Islamabad, Sir Syed Public School, Tipu Road, Rawalpindi and Fazaia College, E-9, Islamabad won first four positions in arts competition. On the last leg of International Ozone Day celebrations, the Ozone Cell organized a seminar at Islamabad Holiday Inn Hotel which was attended by more or less 400 people from different shades of life including a large number of students. For good visibility, Mr. Kamran Lashari, Secretary for Environment graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. In his address, Secretary for Environment highlighted the significance of ozone layer and reiterated the commitment of Government of Pakistan for the preservation of ozone layer and conservation of environment for the sake of our existing and future generations. He informed the participants that the Government of Pakistan had declared 2009 as “National Year for Environment” to sensitise the members of the civil society and all concerned stakeholders to join hands for the improvement of environment. He appreciated the

members of the civil society, educationists and media representative in general and student community in particular for showing immense interest in the seminar. The doctors and environmentalists made presentations on the importance of ozone layer and impact of its depletion on human life. Finally, prizes and certificates of appreciation / participation were awarded to the position holding and participating students of speech and arts competition. The unique aspect of this seminar was that it was for the first time that the Ozone Cell held speech and arts competitions to create awareness in the student community on the ozone issue.

PICTORIAL GLIMPSES OF CELEBRATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL OZONE DAY-2009





