

What urgent reforms are needed for educational revival in Pakistan?

Date _____ 20 _____

Question 04:

Answer:

Reforms Needed for Revival of Education

System of Pakistan:

1. Introduction:

Education plays pivotal role in shaping the future of a nation by equipping its individuals with the necessary skills and knowledge to contribute effectively at international level. According to **Article 25-A** of constitution of Pakistan, children of the age group of 5 to 16 years in the country has the right to free and compulsory education. However, it seems that every government of Pakistan has turned their backs on education sector. After 18th Amendment, the responsibility of school education was given to the provinces, but they have failed to introduce effective reform in education sector. In Pakistan education reforms are essential for ensuring quality education and addressing

the challenges that hinders the process of the education sectors.

2. Overview of Education System of Pakistan:

According to The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2023, out of school children in Pakistan are 26 million between the age of 5 to 16 years. On the other hand, the literacy rate was recorded at 62.8 pc, as per the Economic Survey of Pakistan 2023, highlighting the urgent need of educational reforms in Pakistan.

3. Issues in Education Sector of Pakistan:

Lack of proper planning in education sector has led to inability to achieve MDGs.

Societal and Cultural constraints hinder educational provision.

Gender gap in education enrollment due to societal and economic factors

High cost of private education and low quality of government schools

In sufficient funding for education

Misspending and corruption in education sector

Lack of innovative use of technology

Lack of access and infrastructure

Different curriculum in public, private, and Madrasah schools

Neglect of vocational education is leading to unskilled population

4. Urgent Reforms to Revitalize

Pakistan's Education Sector:

a. Introduction of a Uniform Curriculum:

The current education system of Pakistan is divided with various types of schools following different curriculum. There is a urgent need of uniform curriculum across all educational institutes. This could level the playing field for students belong to different schools and areas. It will ensure same quality of education for all students regardless of their background.

b. Addressing Rural Education Challenges:

The significant of Pakistan's population lives in rural areas. Most of this population is deprived of quality education. Collaborative efforts between federal government and provincial government are essential to promote education in such areas. Educational divide between rural and urban areas can be narrowed

by improving infrastructure, increasing number of girl schools, and offering adult literacy programs.

c. Reclaiming School Buildings:

Many schools in Sindh, Balochistan, and Punjab are occupied by feudal lords. They prevent their use for educational purposes. The government should take action against these people and ensure schools are used for their intended purpose.

d. Enhancing Vocational and Technical Training:

There is a need of technical training to enhance efficiency of education. Building institutions for vocational training by providing better infrastructure, updated equipments, and skilled trainers can help produce a workforce that meets the demands of modern industries.

e. Implementation of Article 25-A:

Nearly half of the

Children in Pakistan are deprived of schooling due to government's inability to provide necessary resources. The state has failed to... implement Article 25-A of constitution of Pakistan. The government should implement the article to ensure free and compulsory education for children under 16 years.

1. Encouragement of Critical Thinking :

Education should be viewed as a platform of... dialogue and debate. Unfortunately, in Pakistan education is mostly based on existing material without critical thinking. There is a need of critical thinking in children to compete in international level. Reform is needed for encouraging critical thinking. It is essential for fostering beneficial environment to critical thinking and intellectual growth. Administrative inertia is common in Pakistan, where institutions are not... ready for a change. However, such reforms in education can change this and modernize the sector.

g. Quality Education for all Citizen:

There is a need of reform that ensures, education serves all citizens without discrimination. Currently, the gender-gap in educational institutions is very high. For instance, girls in poor families are 22% less likely to attend school than boys. Pakistan has failed to uphold Article 25-A. The government should introduce reforms that ensure quality and free education for all children of Pakistan.

h. Teachers Training Programs should be Introduced:

Teachers in educational institutes for modernize skills. Pre-service and in-service programs of training are fundamental. Teachers must have strong subject knowledge, diverse teaching methods, and the ability to address the need of diverse learning. Government should introduce training programs for teachers to equip them with skills for future.

5. Conclusion:

The education system of Pakistan is at abysmal level. It has failed to produce effective human resource for national building. The education sector has many issues which need urgent reforms to revitalize educational institutions in Pakistan. Pakistan must implement Article 25-A first before any reforms. Because almost 2/3 children are out of school. Quality and free education must be first priority of government to ensure the nation have better opportunity in future. The necessary skills and knowledge is mandatory for children to compete in globalize world.