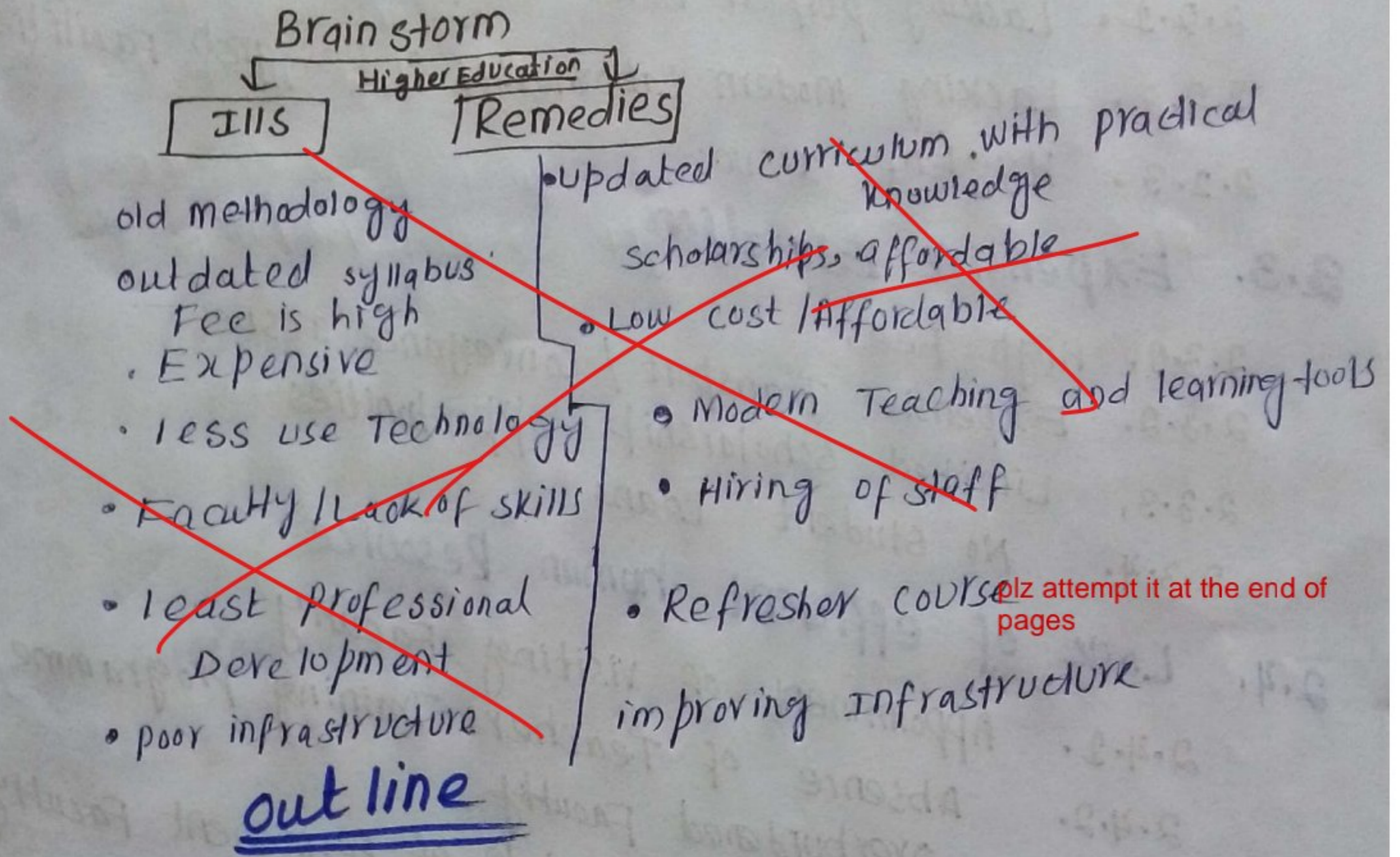


# Higher Education in Pakistan: IIS and Remedies



## 1. Introduction:

1.1. Hook

1.2. General statements

1.3. Thesis statement: There are several IIS related to outdated curriculum, poor infrastructure, high Fee, Lack of efficient human resource. Improving infrastructure, offering affordable education, and hiring efficient human resource are immediate remedies.

## 2. Main Body:

### A. IIS of Higher Education in Pakistan

#### 2.1. outdated curriculum

2.1.1 old syllabus

2.1.2 Teacher centered, not student centered

2.1.3 Lacking Analytical skills

2.1.4 unsuitable For practical purpose / industry academia link

## 2.2 ~~pool~~ Infrastructure

- 2.2.1. ~~Lacking~~ purpose Built campuses <sup>do not have purpose built</sup>
- 2.2.2. Lacking modern Laboratories & Research Facilities
- 2.2.3. Hygiene Issues

## 2.3. Expensive Education

- 2.3.1. High Fees
- 2.3.2. Expensive Transport / conveyance Issues
- 2.3.3. Limited scholarship opportunities
- 2.3.4. ~~No~~ student Loans

## 2.4. Lack of efficient human Resource

- 2.4.1. Appointment of visiting Faculty
- 2.4.2. Absence of Teachers Training Programme
- 2.4.3. Overburdened Faculty
- 2.4.4. Irresponsible attitude of Permanent Faculty

## B) Remedies for the ills in Higher Education

### 2.1 Introducing modern curriculum

- 2.1.1. Revising syllabus Every year
- 2.1.2. Engaging subject experts
- 2.1.3. Promoting life skills based education
- 2.1.4. Establishing industry academia link

### 2.2 Allocating Budget to improve Infrastructure

- 2.2.1. Building purpose Built campuses
- 2.2.2. Providing modern Laboratories and Research Facilities
- 2.2.3. Solving Hygiene Issues

### 2.3 Providing Affordable Education

- 2.3.1. student support Programs

- 2.3.2. Announcing more ✓ scholarships for students
- 2.3.3. Providing ~~more~~ ✓ discount travel cards
- 2.3.4. Promoting online education.

## 2.4 Hiring efficient Human Resource

- 2.4.1 Appointment of Permanent ✓ Faculty instead of visiting
- 2.4.2. Promotion of ✓ Teachers Training Programs
- 2.4.3. No ~~multitasking~~ ✓ For Faculty
- 2.4.4. checks on ✓ the Performance of Permanent Faculty.

## 3. Conclusion:

- 3.1. Thesis restated, ✓ summary of Ideas presented
- 3.2. concluding ✓ Thoughts

# The Essay

u tried to pull the reader but the reader gets entangled

During the second world war, Churchill received a message from Hitler. Hitler made him an offer if Churchill did not bomb German universities, he would also not destroy his ones. Churchill immediately ~~offered~~ accepted his offer and said if England was destroyed and Cambridge and Oxford universities were spared then English culture would also survive. This is the importance of higher education.

Even after defeat, Germany restored its position on the victory stand only because of her universities. Unfortunately, Pakistan is facing problems in higher education due to outdated curriculum, ~~improving infrastructure~~

~~offering affordable education and~~ poor infrastructure, expensive education and lack of efficient human resource. These ~~ills~~ have drastic impacts;

Immediate remedies are introducing modern curriculum, improving infrastructure, offering affordable education, and hiring efficient human resource. Unless the issue of higher education are addressed properly, Pakistan can neither become prosperous nor respectable.

First Come the ~~ills~~ in which outdated curriculum stands prominent. The syllabus of most of the Pakistani universities is old and outdated. For instance, in computer science department different programming languages like C, C++ and OOP (Object oriented programming) are taught, which are really not that efficient. These languages are irrelevant after the lot of disruptions happening in AI, machine learning and deep learning. Similarly, the study of medical science is ~~too~~ limited to basic medical skills and use of outdated analytical tools like old BP apparatus is common, in Pakistan. Moreover, the education provided at the university is not suitable for industrial use.

what is first come/ please write keeping in view the accuracy to your topic sentences

these languages are irrelevant, do not make any reference

In Pakistan, telecom engineering has been abandoned by most of the universities because their expertise for installation and handling of mobile towers was upto the mark. Similarly, computer science graduates are unable to manage and update country's important websites and applications. Therefore, Chinese and foreign experts are imported to fix the equipment and manage websites. Moreover, our education system is teacher centered not student centered. The teacher takes the leading role in class and students have to listen to his instructions. In the same way, our curriculum lacks analytical skills, it is like theory without practise that's why students are unable to solve real life problems. There are no projects, skills and logical tasks to perform. A computer science student cram syntax of programming languages without implementation during lab hours, on computer.

plz substantiate your paragraphs with proper and substantive lines  
Finally, there is a wide gap between industry and academia in our universities. For example, a student of mass communication is unable to find any placement or exposure in media industry. Therefore, outdated curriculum has created a big hurdle in the effectiveness of higher education in Pakistan.

The second ill of higher education in Pakistan is poor infrastructure. Most of the universities lack purpose built campuses. There is almost no facility for disabled students. There are no elevators or ramps for such students in the universities. Even in this modern era the modern universities like FAST, NUST and Quaid-i-Azam lack such facilities. Similarly there are limited labs and laboratories. There are more students to accommodate in limited space. For instance, in computer lab hundreds of students practice on few computers. Similarly, in medical schools one dead body is surrounded by few doctors to examine who come first. Rest have to wait or

~~adjust. Even the students of literature do not have the opportunity to borrow books from the library because there are only one or two copies available on the same subject. In this way, the students who have no proper access to labs and libraries cannot conduct research properly. Apart from purpose built campuses and modern labs, the universities have mostly unhygienic environment. Their cafeterias and washrooms always create troubles for students. Cafeterias are in open air. The food provided by cafeterias is not nutritious because it contain large amounts of oils and fat, along with an endless selection of sugary desserts. According to a study 60% of students avoid school washrooms because restroom is unclean, sinks and other appliances are not operating properly and soap or paper towel dispensers are empty. Therefore, lack of proper infrastructure creates hurdles in aims of higher education.~~

The ~~third~~ <sup>ill</sup> ~~inflicting~~ the higher education in Pakistan is the ~~question~~ of affordability. In past universities were supported by the government. Any person from any class could go for any education on merits otherwise on self-finance. However in present times, when government is already under the burden of fiscal deficit, it is impossible for it to support the public colleges or universities. Now almost all public sector universities charge from Rs 70,000 to over 100,000 per semester; in some cases, more than this amount, depending on subjects. For instance, Quaid-i-Azam university per semester fee for computer science Bachelor's degree was 40,000 in 2019 and now it is 73,200 in 2024. ~~unfortunately, unlike developed~~ Resultantly,

~~Countries~~ Pakistani students have to bear the burden of high fees. Unfortunately, unlike developed countries, Pakistani students have very limited access to student support programs. For example, HEC announces stipend for students pursuing higher education every year, but the available scholarships are just a fraction of the majority studying in universities. Nor do the banks offer any student loans to the needy. Moreover, there are almost no travel discounts for majority of the students. Except for few cities, students from rural areas have to bear the brunt of massive transportation costs. ~~Lastly~~, online education which reduces transportation expenses is no more promoted by the universities except for some natural calamity or pandemics.

The corona pandemic was a blessing in disguise so far as online mode of learning was concerned. However its benefits were not extended after the pandemic was over. Physical classes, thus, cost the pockets of Pakistani students and hampers their smooth learning process. All these reasons make education expensive for the common residents of Pakistan.

Finally there is lack of efficient human resource not only in higher educational institutes in Pakistan but also in Higher Education Commission (HEC). On one hand, universities are still interested to hire more and more visiting faculty to cut their expenses. They are paid minimum wages for each lecture and their duration of teaching cannot be claimed as experience anywhere. For instance visiting faculty is paid Rs 800 per lecture which is too little and then 20% tax for non-filers is also deducted from this amount. Moreover, more than a

year passed and they are not paid their salaries. ultimately affecting students as well as quality of education. ~~compelling a man~~ Therefore, this is the worst discrimination against educated youth. Additionally, Absence of Teachers Training Programs. ~~Although teachers salaries have improved a lot, the training wings of the respective education departments remain severely underfunded. These department do not offer training programs due to lack of funds. Teacher training and support is an area that is not functioning well in Pakistan. There do not seem to be enough resources in the system, and there is a lack of poor incentives for the provision of training and support. Moreover, universities are short of staff. Teachers have to perform other academic and management tasks during service. Since the salaries are so meager, mid level workers often leave for better opportunities. This disturbs smooth working of university and negatively affects its efficiency. The faculty is overburdened. Similarly, irresponsible attitude of permanent faculty is a major issue. civil service act protect permanent faculty members. These are the reasons for low ranking of Pakistan's universities in world university ranking. For instance As per of 2022, total 6 universities were ranked in top 1000 by QS world university ranking: NUST # 334, Quaid-i-Azam university # 378, PEAS # 398, LUMS # 651, University of Punjab # 801 and UET, Lahore # 801. In 2023, the number increased only by 1, with the addition of university of Pishawar # 801.~~

it is incomplete one



Unfortunately, Pakistan is facing problems in Higher Education due to outdated curriculum, poor infrastructure, expensive education, and lack of human resource. These causes have drastic impacts. Immediate remedies are in the form of introducing modern curriculum, improved infrastructure, affordable education, and hiring efficient human resource.

First comes the remedy for outdated curriculum. Modern and updated curriculum must be introduced in our higher education. The syllabus must be revised every year. The services of subject experts around the world can be taken in this regard. A similar activity was performed at lower education in Punjab when the provincial government hired the services of the British Council in 2011 by Directorate of Staff Development (DSD). Master trainers trained the heads of the state schools and then the training further went to the levels of teachers. There were significant changes brought in the course book of schools. The standard of content was made as per the international requirement. In this connection the government took advice of a renowned educationist Michael Barber, former educational advisor of ex PM Tony Blair. Such foreign collaboration to improve the syllabus can also be organized for higher education. Similarly, life skills based education should be promoted instead of cramming based subjects. Students must be taught problem solving skills. critical

thinking and analytical reasoning should be developed among the students of higher education. These exams may include those questions that test these abilities. Such skills are tested in exams have been introduced in class 9 and 11 of Federal board of Pakistan. ~~such as LUMS and IBA where students in their last semester often get~~

~~placements~~ Finally there should be industry academia link. This link is present in few universities of Pakistan such as LUMS and IBA where students in their last semester often get payments in industry. Such incentive must be provided to other degree programs so that the students can get first hand experience in job industry. Only this way the issue of outdated curriculum can be solved.

~~Modern and updated curriculum is the remedy for poor infrastructure~~

Allocating Budget to improve infrastructure is the remedy for poor structure. Budget should be allocated to build purpose built campuses. There must be the provision of facilities for physically disadvantaged students. The building must have working elevators to assist those students. Buildings should be built allows the handicapped students to go to their classes on their own. Handicapped students are picked up by their friends to reach the class. So there must be lifts for those students. Similarly, budget should be allocated to provide modern laboratories and research facilities to the universities.

laboratories are not well equipped to carry out any experiments and practices required for given syllabus. In 2024 recently HEC demanded 125 million rupees from the Federal government, but in return, the federal government first allocated 20 million rupees and after some ~~time~~ some table talk, they finally agreed to give them 65 million same as previous year. Within this budget universities are unable to build modern laboratories. The budget should be increased to meet the demands. finally/lastly, hygiene should be the to priority of the universities as health is wealth. As students spend most of their time in their universities, but the quality of food and other commodities in the university is far less than the international recommended standards. A separate staff should be trained and assigned for the cleaning purposes. Therefore, cleanliness must be observed in class-rooms and washrooms ~~so~~ ~~there~~ for better learning environment and fewer sick days. By addressing these areas, educational institutions in Pakistan can create a healthier and more conducive learning environment significantly improving the overall well being of students and staff.

providing affordable education is the remedy for expensive education. ~~or~~ The remedy for expensive education is affordable education. Firstly, student support programs should be introduced in universities. ~~Education~~ Education is the right of every individual but ~~even~~ ~~as~~ ~~middle~~ middle class can't afford education nowadays, especially in Pakistan mostly people can't bear expenses

of higher education. According to article 25(A) of the constitution of Pakistan, basic education is free, there should be amendment for higher education, to facilitate students who are willing to get higher education. The government and the universities should start student programs that support students financially through easy bank loans, paying dues in installments need base, talent base scholarships in every semester and rich support poor programs etc. So far only National Bank of Pakistan is offering such loans, but the conditions are strict. Other banks should also offer easy loans. Secondly, more scholarships should be announced and allocated to students. The Higher Education Commission should establish clear, merit based and need-based criteria for scholarship eligibility. Mostly HEC announces scholarship during mid semesters. It must provide scholarships in start of the admission so poor people get the chance to take admission. It must simplify the application process to get the scholarships on time. There should be a team to provide guidance and information to students about scholarships. Every year HEC announces thousands of scholarships but only few students get ~~that~~ these scholarships. Apart from national scholarships, Pakistani students should be provided complete guidance and support about international scholarships. The ~~the~~ government of India seek students for international scholarship, ~~also~~ complete the procedure on the behalf of students also provide them full assistance during their study period in abroad. Pakistan ~~the~~ The government

of Pakistan & the universities should also help students in this regard so that later these students become strong dyspona of Pakistan in Western World. Thirdly, students travelling expenses can be reduced by providing discount travel cards. The government of Pakistan should provide discount travel cards for needy students. As university buses entertain only those student who submit bus fee and ~~and~~ have bus cars so government must provide special discount cards for those who are unable to pay high bus travelling charges so they can easily use university specialized bus service. Universities should also provide discount on bus fee so that students can easily pay it and enjoy the facility. Not even a single university in Pakistan providing free bus service, however some universities like Punjab provides bus service on low rates. Therefore, government of Pakistan must be take some immediate steps in this regard. Finally, universities should promote online education. This will not reduce only the travel expenses of students and staff, but also the running costs of universities. Universities should organize on line classes three days a week for theory based lessons. In this way expensive education can be resolved.

Hiring efficient Human Resources is the remedy for insufficient human resource in higher education institutions. This can be done by the appointment of permanent faculty instead of the visitings. An attractive salary package should be offered to potential candidates

The government and universities should hire fresh and updated minds time to time. For instance, computer science is a fast growing and dynamic field, and it requires updated degree holders for efficient and better teachers. So, efficient and trained human resource should be hired. Moreover, the government should hire trainers and guides from outside, even foreign states, to train the faculty and tutors of our universities. The promotion of teachers' training program is important because a conviction of knowledge without mastering the art of delivering is baseless. Similarly, there should be no multitasking for faculty members, which will save them from extra mental and physical exertion. By doing so, the faculty can completely focus on their teaching. Faculty should prioritize focusing on one task at a time to ensure high quality teaching, research, and administrative work. Lastly, there should be checks on the performance of faculty. Checks on the performance of faculty should ensure accountability and uphold standards in teaching and research. Regular performance checks should aim to foster continuous improvement by providing constructive feedback and identifying areas of development.

To conclude, the major ills of higher education are outdated curriculum, poor infrastructure, expensive education, and lack of human resource. In the presence of these issues, development in Pakistan seems a distant dream. Therefore, serious efforts must be taken to address these issues. Introducing modern

curriculum, improved infrastructure, affordable education, and employing efficient human resource are the remedies available to counter the ills of higher education in Pakistan. Only those nations earn respect and prosperity which focus on their higher education. After World War II, Britain was deprived of all her colonies and sources of raw material and revenues, she emerged as a respectable nation due to her excellence in higher education. Even today the majority of population aspires to get a British degree from Oxford or Cambridge. Even today, the British curriculum rules the lower education in the form of Cambridge O' & A' levels exams all over the world. It is the education that gives prestige; it is education that gives respect. It is never too late to pledge for a new change to create a new to-morrow. Where there is a will there is a way, regardless of the obstacles and hindrances we can also achieve our goals.