

Challenges To Higher Education In Pakistan.

① Introduction

Thesis Statement:

The problems to higher education in Pakistan have hampered the development prospects of the country due to various reasons. In order to cope with existing education system woes, pertinent measures should be taken in true letter and spirit.

② Concise paragraph

③ Problems to higher education in Pakistan.

- a- Education system is not up-to-date.
- b- Allocation of budget in Education is not enough.
- c- Corruption in education system in Pakistan is at the heart of challenges.
- d- Gender inequality is a rising factor in Pakistan.

④ Impacts of challenges to higher education in Pakistan.

- a- Sectarian violence is creating an environment that is not conducive to learning.
- b- Brain drain hedges the growth of a country.
- c- Language barrier is one of the crucial aspects to higher education in Pakistan.
- d- People do not afford higher education because of poverty.

Conclusion

The issues to higher education in Pakistan have hampered the development prospects of the country due to various reasons. The challenges are facing by the education system hedges the growth of the country, since 1947. At present the situation is as similar as of the past the incapacitative state institutions compounded with multiple challenges depicts the poor situation of education crisis in Pakistan. In order to cope up with existing challenges pertinent measures should be taken with true letter and spirit.

One of the main issues in Pakistan's higher education is that it is not up-to-date. Teachers are not using up-to-date techniques to teach the students in college and universities. They prefer cramming material than delivering the understand material. So, the students in colleges and universities does not use their minds and are not be able to develop any further skills. Ultimately, students does not research and prefer the ready made material like projects. For instance, 60% of students, when they were doing projects in university borrows projects from seniors against money. Therefore Pakistan's higher education does not meet the international standards while students in Pakistan are facing hurdles to get admission in international universities.

The Government of Pakistan does not provide sufficient budget for Education. Pakistan spends 1.7% of its GDP on education, this investment level is low. While, International standard of budget of education is at least 20%. Ultimately, it results poor infrastructure of schools, colleges and universities in Pakistan. Clean drinking water is not available in educational institutions. This impedes student's access to quality education. While in rural areas educational institutions condition are more worst than the ~~rural~~ urban areas. Even they does not have buildings, classrooms, and intact chairs, where the students were sit on the ground or plain area like in Sindh rural areas, Balochistan. Therefore students were not get quality education in

The Corruption in education system is at heart of challenges in Pakistan. Corruption in education system is not tormenting in Pakistan alone. It prevade the whole world. Pakistan education sector is rife with corruption from top to bottom. Districts are involved in millions of rupees embezzlement. Such corruption practices were committed on account of the withdrawal extra monthly pay, salaries of ghost teacher, monthly pay, unauthorised provident funds, pension on retirement drawn multiple times and the illegal appointment of teachers through ~~backdoor~~ in connivance with treasury officials

Investment on education is a positive move but the fact is that Pakistan is a developing country as indicator shows. Without proper monitoring the investment on education is just wastage of resources and creation of more opportunities for the misappropriation and embezzlement of funds.

Gender inequality is a rising factor in Pakistan, causes a greater challenge towards problem in higher education in Pakistan. According to current statistics, literacy rate in Pakistan is 62.3%, which means 60 million students were out of school: in which female literacy rate lags behind at 48% and male literacy rate stands at 70%. Gender inequality in education requires its historical roots, where cultural norms favoured boys and deeming girls education less important. One of the main challenges contributing to gender inequality in education is the limited access to schools for girls particularly rural and remote areas. However, without participation of women, a country cannot be a prosperous nation.

There is no greater pillar of stability than a strong, free and educated woman (ANGELINA JOUE)

Sectarian violence is a major problem and it has also affected the higher education system. Some universities have been forced to close.

Security concerns and students have been targeted for violence. This is creating an environment that is not conducive to learning. Furthermore, specifically in Universities sectarian violence is rising across the country. More than dozen clashes have been reported during the six month period between student wings of various religious, political ethnic parties in the Universities of Punjab, Sindh and KPK. Most incidents were reported from Punjab University, Karachi University, Quaid-e-Azam University and so on. Back 2014, Peshawar attack on Aps (Army Public School) was held by Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan, killing 149 people including 132 students ranging between eight and eighteen years of age, making it world's fifth deadliest school massacre. Due to the sectarian violence, students are not able to learn. Therefore the Government as a state institution concerned must, to take affirmative actions in order to cope up with ongoing dilemma.

Pakistan is facing serious challenge to higher education is brain drain. Many talented Pakistani graduates are choosing to study and work abroad due to lack of opportunities in Pakistan. Pakistan having a loss of skilled teachers. When teachers leaves the country, it becomes challenging to replace them with equally qualified teachers. This leads to a shortage of untrained and experienced teachers so far.

From 1971 to 2022, the total number of highly qualified and skilled professionals who migrated from Pakistan is 60,19,888. Among them 4.18% were highly qualified, 7.55% were highly skilled and 88.27% were skilled professionals, **NCBI report**. The country needs stable politics and a charter of economy that binds political governments to ensure continuity of economic policies and ease of doing business for investors, traders and industrialists. The education system should pivot towards technical education and vocational training to feed industry and IT sector.

Language barrier is one of the most crucial aspects towards higher education in Pakistan. Students learn ^{most} all the subjects in English but they do not know understand the language and even they did not know how to speak. Language barriers have a significant impact on the academic writing of students in higher education. Now ~~pb~~ students prefer to study in private school rather than government schools, and for higher education, students prefer to go abroad. Government should take measures to spend on education sectors, it boosts the economy and overall progress of the country.

People in Pakistan are mostly middle class or lower class. more than half population below the poverty line. They do not afford the cost of higher education. They put their children to the government schools. and then after matriculation childrens continue to do work. They stop studying. more than half population is illiterate just because they do not afford the fees of higher education.

Education system in Pakistan faces serious challenges. but also there are number of challenges. With the right investment and reforms the higher education system in Pakistan can be transformed and become a major driver of economic growth and social development.

**Without education There is no such development and prosperity in Country.
(Murtaza Ali)**