

Outline :

A) Introduction

B) Causes of Digital Divide in Education:

1B) Accessibility:

1.1B) Poor infrastructure:

→ Areas like Balochistan, KPK with difficult terrain and security issues don't have towers, wifi towers as well as sim signals.

→ Climate Calamities in northern areas like Swat destroyed critical infrastructure including internet towers and sim networks.

→ Accessibility of Electricity in villages, towns and far-flung areas like FATA, Kand Balochistan is low.

2B) Affordability:

2.1B) Income inequality ^{& poverty} makes it difficult for students to afford:

→ Smartphones

→ Wifi devices & sim based internet

→ Electricity: 24/7 electricity is difficult for students who cannot afford UPS and generators.

C) How to Bridge this digital divide in Education:

Role of

1C) Government Policies:

1.1c) Laptop Schemes: Government should increase the number of laptops and diversify the criteria from merit based to poverty and affordability.

1.2c) More initiatives like Punjab-wifi: Such initiatives should also be completed taken in provinces like Sindh, Balochistan and KPK.

1.3c) Enhanced Security in KPK and Balochistan:

1.4c) Gwadar port. Security should be lightened in Gwadar for speedy completion of Gwadar port. As the port would develop, infrastructure like mobile networks, sun towers and wifi towers would also

develop leading to ~~also~~ enhanced internet and Electricity accessibility.

1.4C: Student packages: Apart from free laptops and free wifi, government should launch ~~st~~ subsidised student packages for internet as well as devices such as laptops and tabs.

2.) Role of Educational institutions:

2.1C) Skill Development of teachers and Students:

→ Workshops should be organised to train teachers ~~and~~ regarding tools of online education and training them to incorporate modern teaching methods such as animations, videos in their presentations.

→ Students should be trained to: ~~extra~~ enhance their research skills so they can access articles, journals and educational videos online for free.

→ Acquainting them with platforms and apps such as Microsoft word, Power point and Excel sheets is important to bridge the digital divide.

→ Emerging technologies such as AI: & Students and teachers should be encouraged to use Chatgpt and other AI based platforms to add a touch of creativity to their work.

3C) Climate Resilience

3.1C) Portable Solar panels:

Small, portable but efficient solar plates will make electricity more available and accessible to both students and teachers from climate struck areas.

3.2C) A.I based Sensor systems:

Early detection of catastrophes will help teachers and students to evacuate and carry with them useful items. This will prevent loss of time as students will move

to safer areas and continue their education without long delays.

4) Conclusion