

DATE 21/11/2024

## Outline

Topic:- Neglected Primary Health and Basic Education are key Reasons of Pakistan Backwardness.

### A. Introduction

1. "The Economic of Welfare" by Arthur Cecil Pigou.
2. The intertwined relationship between Health and Education.
3. Pakistan's Backwardness: The Neglect of Human Capital Development
4. Thesis Statement:

### B. Key Indicators of Sustainable Development Goals

- a) Pakistan failed to meet 2030 SDG goals.
- b) "Paradox of Prosperity" by Clinton.

### C. Backwardness of Pakistan: Neglecting Primary Health

#### 1. The Neglect of Women's Health.

- a) Increased mortality rates
- b) In Gender Gap Index Report 2024, Pakistan ranks 143rd.
- c) WEF Report "Closing the Women's Health Gap: A \$1 trillion opportunity to improve lives and economies"

#### 2. Children Health Concerns.

- a. **Relevant and well researched content**  
The per capita GDP of Pakistan is \$1010 of which children have stunted growth and 29.1% are underweight.
- b. UNICEF Reports, eight out of 10 children in Pakistan do not eat the right type of food.



### 3. Shortage of Specialized doctors and nurses.

- Report of Senate Standing Committee, shortage of 1 million nurses and 30 thousand doctors registered with PMDC are not practicing.
- Gender Gap Index "Health and Survival", Pakistan ranks 143rd.

### 4. Poor Infrastructure and maintenance of hospitals.

- Outdated surgical equipments
- Case in Point: Holly Family Hospital Islamabad.
- World Bank Report 2021.

### 5. Population explosion and lack of family planning mechanism.

- Illiterate people become liability than asset
- Pakistan ranks world's most populous country. UNFPA.

### 6. Mental Health concerns.

- WHO, "10% mental disorder affecting approximately 20m people.
- High Suicide rate, especially of students.
- WHO 2020, 15 to 35 people per day die by suicide in Pakistan.

## D. The Reasons of Backwardness of Pakistan by Neglecting the Role of Education.

### 1. Rise of Elite capture and feudalistic structure.

- "Shahab Nama" by Qudratullah Shahab
- Prof. Winer and Noman (1996) explained the poor performance of education.

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c. Military dictatorship i.e. Ayub and Zia.

## 2. Bifurcated Education.

a. Non-Uniformity in Education system.

b. Regional Disparities (Report DEPIX 2024)

b. BOOK Review "Why Nations Fail"

↳ Noam Chomsky, "Education is a system of imposed ignorance"

## 3. Corruption

a. Political and Bureaucratic Intervention

b. Appointment of illiterate education ministers

c. Pakistan ranks 133rd out of 180 in CAI index.

## 4. Low Budgetary Allocation and Gender Disparity

a. Pakistan spend less than 2% of GDP

b. Article 25A, free education.

c. Comparison with Bangladesh and India.

## 5. Neglected Importance of Knowledge economy.

a. Hawaii Book Review, "21 Lessons for the 21st century"

b. Case study of Finland.

## E. Consequences of the Neglect of Primary Education Health and Basic Education on Pakistan's Sustainable Development.

(1) High rate of Brain Drain.

a. As of April 2024, over 13.53 million

Pakistanis have migrated abroad for employment, according to Pakistan Economic Survey.

2. Pakistan's Economic Down Turn.

a) World Bank report.

b. Dr. Mehtab ul Haq presented 3 evensins

in his book "Poverty Curbing"



### 3. High dropout rates.

- a. Low budgetary allocation, high inflation has led to high dropout rates in Pakistan.
- b. Education Emergency, PM Shehbaz said, 26 million children are out of school.

### D. Remedies for Sustainable Growth

- i) Government should realize the concept of prosperity and form stringent long-term policies and their implementation.
- ii) Placing importance to knowledge economy.
- iii) Equipping hospitals with trained doctors and advanced medical instrument and mobile hospitals.
- iv) Working on welfare of the people.
- v) Training teachers and students for global competitiveness.

### E. Conclusion

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The importance of education in different walks of life has been emphasized since Aristotle and Plato. Also, the importance of health ~~is not~~ can not be neglected when it comes to prosperity. Arthur Cecil, the father of welfare Economics, in his book "The Economic Welfare", has stressed upon the four basic parameters of welfare including: Basic ~~and political~~ protection of citizens; economic improvement irrespective of class and gender; and even dignity, common values and equality. ~~An~~ Focusing on these four parameters, any nation can thrive itself in terms of social, political, economic, and cultural development. Similarly in 1960's Theodore Schultz and Gary Becker, had worked on the concept of investment in human capital proved that a high level of education and basic health is a necessary condition for economic growth and no country can make significant economic progress if majority of its citizens are illiterate and have poor health. Unfortunately, Pakistan has failed to so and now facing backwardness. Pakistan was created in the name of Islam under the outstanding leadership of Quaid-e-Azam. He gave the importance of education for the new nation. But, despite high and repeated rhetoric, education remained most

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neglected aspect of national life during the last half century. Consequently, made it a backward nation. Furthermore, the neglect of health <sup>has</sup> raised the alarming situation in Pakistan. Pakistan has ratified the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) but still it has failed to achieve the 2030 goal. Pakistan ranks 161st on Human Development Index with a score of 0.41 which is very disappointing figure. Moreover, neglecting women ~~health~~ and children health, having poor infrastructure and maintenance of hospitals, and shortage of doctors and nurses etc. <sup>have</sup> consequently led to high mortality rates and deadly diseases. ~~which~~ which also has severe economic cost. Similarly, the rise of elite culture and feudalistic structure, bifurcated education, and corruption etc. has resulted into high rate of brain drain, low economic ~~growth~~ <sup>growth</sup>, and high drop rates etc. The State has responsibility to work on human capital development as enshrined in constitution of Article 25-A where the state is responsible to provide free and compulsory education. Children are the asset of this country. While illiterate youth become a liability. Hence, therefore, it is very important for the government to take some stringent measures. Ergo, ~~we~~ <sup>one</sup> can say that health and education are the building blocks of

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political, social and economic development of any country. Neglecting these basic parameters of human capital will lead a country towards backwardness like Pakistan.

Such obstacles towards national development ~~should~~ must be controlled today. b.