

Critical Analysis Of Education System Of Pakistan. Is It Possible To Reform The System

Outline:

A. Introduction

1. Nelson Mandela on Education
2. Thesis statement: As the education system of Pakistan is under the influence of political, economic and social constraints which undermine the quality of education and its equitable availability ^{of resources}. However, much needed reforms can bring ^{out} the youth from these issues to the light of knowledge.

B. Brief Overview Of Importance Of Education In The Development Of A Nation

C. What Are The Shortcomings Of Education System Of Pakistan

1. A mere focus of politicians on some areas pushing others in darkness

1. Case in point: Patron-client politics.
2. Prevalence of class-based education due to elite capture.

a. Case in point: Pakistan social living standard survey

3. Discriminatory allocation of resources resulting in unequal education.

a. UNESCO report on Balochistan education

4. Inadequate educational infrastructure in rural areas.

a. Case in point: Pakistan educational statistics report.

5. Less focus on technical schools in remote areas killing undiscovered talent.

a. Most Tertiary colleges located only in urban cities.

6. High drop-out rates in far-flung areas due to economic barriers.

a. Case in point: Tharparker girls' dropout rate and early marriages.

7. Institutional failure which brings inequality in education

a. Case in point: Corruption Index in Pakistan

8. Gender disparity restricting females from going to school

a. Case in point: UNESCO Report

9. Unavailability of well-trained teachers in under-privileged areas

a. Case in point: Ghost schools in Sindh

D. Some Important Reforms To Reconstruct Education System Of Pakistan

1. Relocation of out of school children

2. Encourage public-private partnership

3. Promote equitable access to education

4. Research-based infrastructure for advanced education

5. Introduce Teacher Training programs for dissemination of knowledge

E- Conclusion

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can chose to change the World."

Nelson Mandela

Education, once in a pre-Islamic era, was considered as wastage of time. The societies were under-developed with no ethical values and women buried alive. Now, the time has changed. In the modern era, education has taken a central position in this advancing world. Every country is in a competitive zone to make itself the superpower. Along with this, some countries are striving to bring themselves in this global race. Indeed, there is a ^{huge} difference between the living standards of ~~the~~ advanced and advancing countries. Our country, Pakistan, is also in this striving

phase. It is struggling to ~~settle~~ ensure the development of its social, political and economic domains. As the education system of Pakistan is under the influence of political, economic and social constraints which undermine the quality of education and its equitable availability of resources. However, much needed reforms can bring ^{out} the youth from these issues to the light of knowledge.

Education in Pakistan is of great importance. It is like that pill which can cure all the growing issues of 21st century. Our country is facing a horrendous change in socio-politico-economic domains. It displays profundity in political instability, social extremism and economic crisis. It is only a good education which can bring sensibility to youth to and sensitize all social issues of

Pakistan. Moreover, education can bring a sense of civic-responsibility among people so that they can work on good governance and fight for their rights. Education contains a great importance in Pakistan as it shall lead our country to the heights of economic stability through more innovations and intelligent minds. Consequently, education in Pakistan, if held strongly, is a solution to all the crisis of today's world.

In the first place, education system in Pakistan faces a political divide in all the provinces of Pakistan. As we all know Pakistan is under the impression of dynastic politics. These politicians put their focus on some of the regions of their interest. It is because of the reason that they are not inclined to national progress, rather focus on vote-banks. The

areas from where they get more loyalty are highly developed areas. It is a patron-client politics where voters are bought with promises of the development in their areas. It leaves all other areas unobserved with no facilities and resources. Education suffers a lot in this give and take process. In Sindh, Larkana is well-treated due to the patron-client behaviour but far-flung areas are like Jacobabad are suffering for resources, and education and development. Thus, a mere focus on some areas by politicians push others far from knowledge.

Moreover, there is a class-based education in Pakistan. It is due to elite capture. We see a huge difference between the public and private schools in Pakistan. The government schools are highly neglected by the

government with no reforms and focus on facilities, resources and curriculum. There is out-dated curriculum still taught by the under-trained teacher. While, the private schools are highly developed with international curriculum in those schools. It is due to the influence of elite-class and availability of resources. Pakistan Social living standard survey tells us that over 70% urban elite goes to private schools and 70% lower-middle class to public schools. This leads to the unequal competitive environment for jobs in future. Hence, this elite capture is another shortcoming of education in Pakistan.

Adding to this, education in Pakistan faces discriminatory allocation of resources in Pakistan. Pakistan allocate resources among provinces on the basis of population. Unfortunately, some regions, in this

regard are highly impacted. There is no equal distribution of resource i.e., education, teachers, schools, facilities. Moreover, this discrimination push some region in ~~over~~ sheer darkness and underdevelopment with no light to come in. The Balochistan province faces this discrimination. There is a very little share given to Balochistan due to which there is no good education in this province. UNESCO report tells us 97% illiteracy rate is in Balochistan due to inequitable allocation of resources. Thus, education in Pakistan is deeply affected by unequal distribution of resources.

Furthermore, education in Pakistan is deeply under the strain of inadequate educational infrastructure in rural areas. Infrastructure for education is a basic demand for the prevalence

of good education. But, there is less focus on working of infrasture in rural areas. These rural areas are neglected which is a way to waste a huge talent hidden in these under-developed regions.

According to the Pakistan educational statistics report, there are almost 11000 schools that are shelterless and 647 schools with no light in rural areas. It reflects mere interest of our policy makers and neglect to these rural areas which disables the education system of Pakistan.

Moving down the ladder, technical schools is the most neglected area concerned with education in Pakistan. In this 21st century, technical education go hand-in-hand with conventional education, so that we can compete with other the youth of other countries. For this,

Technical schools play a vital role. Unfortunately, there is no equal distribution of technical school all over the provinces of Pakistan. According to a survey, most TEVTA colleges are located only in urban cities like Karachi, Hyderabad. This shows discrimination of allocation of resources. Otherwise, rural areas have more talent in vocational programs. This leads to bad severe education conditions in Pakistan.

Another reason which leads to the shortcomings of education in Pakistan is high drop out rates in far-flung areas. It is because of rising economic barriers in our country. These both factors are interlinked with each other. Bad education conditions brings poverty in a country due to the less competency to compete. This, in turn leads to high drop-outs from

schools. In this heightening inflation, people cannot afford to educate their off-springs which leads to education suffering. In Tharparkar, people donot afford to give education to their girls, so there is high rate of girls' drop-out from schools and they are married in 14 years of age. Thus, economic constraints impact education system of Pakistan.

Additionally, institutional failures also bring inequality in education. Most of our institutions especially education department donot do justice with the funds allocated for education. There is a high level of corruption in our institution which hinders the development of our country. Also, in tribal areas, the tribal leaders donot allocate resources justly to the educational institutes due to fear of threat to their power. The

corruption index of Pakistan is very high. According to the corruption index, Pakistan stands 135th out of 180 countries. This is a very embarrassing position worldwide for us. Hence, we see that institutions wrapped up in the crime of corruption are a culprit to bad education condition in Pakistan.

Furthermore, gender disparity also restricts our nation from paving through the ways of development and advancement. Gender disparity is the most debatable term in today's world which has changed perspective of many oppressive nations. Despite all these positive changes, some cultural areas still function in Pakistan which restrict women from going to school. This is due to the patriarchal mindset

of society. They fear to give women domination and wings to excel in this world. A recent report of UNESCO depicts that over 2/3rd of the whole population which is illiterate, is female.

This is an alarming situation for Pakistan as women makes 52% of Pakistan's population and this undermines the education conditions of Pakistan.

Adding to this, education in Pakistan also suffers due to unavailability of unprivileged well-trained teachers in unprivileged areas of Pakistan. As we know, there is no training institutes in rural areas which can train teachers of far-flung areas. The teachers of urban cities are not willing to move to rural areas due to shortage of facilities there. This causes a gap in educational quality

of students in urban-rural settings. Doctor Abdu-Sattar discussed about Ghost schools in Sindh, where there is no teacher available to educate students of these areas. This is a neglected situation of Pakistan which paralyzes the educational structure of Pakistan.

The previous paragraphs shed lights on shortcomings of educational system of Pakistan. The next paragraph will shed light on reforms to reconstruct education system of Pakistan.

Starting with the relocation of out of school children This should be the first and foremost reform that needed to be focused. Almost 66% of our children are (including boys and girls) are out of school. This is because of patriarchal normal, cultural mindsets and economic barriers. We should bring these children

to education by initiating different organization. Fortunately, Zindagi Trust is working on this initiative to improve education quality as well as educating children who are unable to afford. This will surely a step towards the development of our country with more minds in practice.

Another is to promote equitable access to education. Our policy makers and politicians should throw a great focus on this discriminatory factor. For this, our NFC award should be revised with equal distribution of funds focusing more on under-developed areas. Also, our law and order should focus on institutional credibility to keep a check on them. There must be a fast and fair check and accountability mechanism to ensure fair

allocation of resource to the
deserved citizens of Pakistan.

Furthermore, public
-private partnership is another
dilemma that must be given
a highlighted importance. Our
government should take some
quality initiatives to bring
in partnership among public and
private schools and institute.

This will ensure same curriculum
for all young student and equal
opportunities in competitive cells.

This positive and healthy step
should make students excel
on merit and give opportunities
to rural areas' talent to
move forward and create a
space for themselves.

Additionally, we must
introduce research-based infras-
-structure for advanced education.

In today's fast pace world,

We can only compete in this world if we teach our children not with theoretical concepts, but also with research and scientific knowledge. This is a key to enter into a competitive world of twenty-first century. For this, we need to focus on advanced education with research in infrastructure and technology in our country. This shall make our youth more prone to the world outside and a better future with the developing zone of our nation by our own youth.

Lastly, Teacher training programs must be instilled in order to give education to the young talent of rural areas more in a better ways. The teachers of rural areas are not well-trained. We must initiate some training

programs in our rural areas so that the teachers can learn more how to work on creating beneficial youth. They must be trained with advanced teaching techniques and all the new curriculum so that they can train their students likewise.

This will surely help in improving education system of Pakistan.

Conclusively, Education system of Pakistan lags in many ways. It faces discrimination by politicians, class-based education's resource crisis, infrastructure loss, technical unavailability, economic barriers, institutional failures, gender disparity and unavailability of well-trained teachers. However, if our government and policy-makers work on it with full enthusiasm and bring reforms of relocation of out of school children's equitable access to education, research

Date: _____

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based infrastructure and teacher-training programs, we can surely bring change to our youth. These children are our future and they will drive our country to the destination. Now, it is our responsibility to choose a good destiny for them by making their path smooth and remove hurdles from it. For this, we need to work on our education system which is a building block of every country's development and a sole purpose to live an aimful life. As Aristotle said: "Educated differ from uneducated, as the living differ from non-living."

Time started : 1:25

Time ended : 4:15