

Rural Development Should Transform People's Lives, Not Just Economic Statistics.

Outline

1. Introduction:

- a- Hook
- b- Background
- c. Thesis Statement "Economic statistics alone are not sufficient to ensure the stability, peace, and progress of a society. Development – let it be rural or urban, or both – should aim at transforming people's lives by ensuring the social cohesion, provision of facilities for intellectual and moral development via upgraded education, and provision of equal opportunities".

2. Economic statistics alone cannot ensure the stability and peace of a society and hence its advancement.

- (i) If the ~~stati~~ economic statistics alone are the focus of rural development, it may leave behind marginalized communities.
 - (a). Allocation of resources may fall victim to the "elite capture" via corrupt practices.
 - (b). It may not ensure parity and inclusion, as only specific segments may be shortlisted for incentives to boost economic statistics.
- (ii) Unequal opportunities may lead people to

adopt illegal practices which may eventually lead them to violent activities such as terrorism.

(a) ~~the~~ unequal opportunities such as ~~&~~ that of in education → particularly lack of education — make leaves people easy to manipulate

(b) ~~Uneq~~ Disparity in job opportunities may coerse people into feeling suppressed and discriminated.

(iii) Social cohesion can be ensured by investing in people, not only economic statistics.

(a) ~~Edu~~ Updated education not only ensures global job opportunities — eventually leading to economic development — but also enables people to distinguish misinformation from facts.

(b) ~~Social~~ By investing in character and moral building of masses — such as that of China and Japan — stability of society can be ensured, leaving less to no space for corrupt and violent activities.

(c) ~~&~~ Gender disparity leaves a significant portion of society behind to be a part of developmental initiatives. Hence, breaking away from gender stereotyping should also be prioritized.

(iv) If the focus remains only on economic statistics and not social development, most of the revenue would go into combating the aftermaths of social ~~ex~~ incohesion, leaving a little room for progress.

(a) People, in search for better opportunities and quality of life, migrate in masses to urban centres making both rural and urban management

difficult.

(b) People should be provided with a national cause and equal opportunities to overcome hurdles, such as anti-national propaganda and separatist movements, and to ensure & effective economic progress.

(v) Viability of the approach in the context

~~3~~ **Conclusion** of Pakistan.

(vi) Case study of China.

3. Conclusion

Introduction;

While the notion of development is generally perceived to be restricted to economy or infrastructure, its concept goes far beyond that. Development, besides economy, also means nurturing the intellectual capabilities of masses, building their character, and providing them with opportunities to utilize their talent to serve their nation. While all of this can be achieved through economic stability, economic statistics alone cannot ensure these provisions. It is, in fact, a cyclic loop whereby soft ~~and~~ provisions such as education, parity, character building, ~~and~~ and intellect lead to the social cohesion and stability of any society, ultimately resulting in economic development. Economic development, in return, provides the revenue through which such provisions can be ensured. However, if the focus remains only the economic statistics - particularly in the context of rural development - people may fall ~~a~~ victim not only to their own stereotypical and orthodox practices - such as; gender discrimination^{and} tribal rivalries - but may also be manipulated at the hands of anti-national propagandas, eventually resorting to violent and sometimes terrorist activities. If this happens, all of the economic statistics are utilized in combating these aftermaths, leaving no room for progress.