

Education Emergency in Pakistan: Challenges & Way forward

Outline:

I Introduction

Thesis statement: Education Emergency, despite several challenges on its path, is a much-needed step to resolve the education crisis; however, with sincere will and effective policy implementation, the hardships it faces can be mitigated.

II Factors that Led to an Education Emergency

III Prospects of a Successful Education Emergency in Pakistan

IV Challenges in the Path of Materializing the Education Emergency

A- Inadequate budget allocation

→ Economic survey of Pakistan report

B- Vulnerability of educational infrastructure

→ Floods, earthquakes, heatwaves

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C- High poverty rate

→ Report of World Bank (WB)

D- Widening digital divide

→ Report of Pakistan Telecommunication Authority

E- Gender disparities in rural regions

F- Multi-tiers education system

→ Public, Private, Madrasa

VI

V Pragmatic Measure to Make Education Emergency Successful

A- Allocating a larger share of GDP on education

→ Prescribed value of UN - 4% of GDP

B- Infrastructure repair and disaster-resilient construction

→ Following Nepal's model

C- Promoting digital education Readiness in Pakistan

D- Enhanced monitoring, evaluation, and Learning

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E- Promoting gender transformative education

F- Ensuring psycho-social support to teachers and students

VI Conclusion

The first word uttered in Islam as the command of revelation to the Holy Prophet was 'Iqra' which means to read. Education is obligatory in Islam. The Quran urges the people to develop their abilities and traits through education. However, despite being an Islamic Republic and a guarantor of free education to every children in its constitution, Pakistan has severely failed to meet its commitments. To improve the devastating condition of education in the country, Pakistan has launched an Education Emergency. However, announcing any national policy is easy, but its proper

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implementation is an arduous task.

Similarly, Education Emergency faces certain challenges such as low budget allocation and poor educational infrastructure.

Moreover, abject poverty, widening digital divide, and gender disparities further contribute to the challenges.

Nevertheless, not everything is lost yet; with pragmatic measures, Education Emergency can materialize into a reality. For instance, decent spending on education and building disaster-resilient infrastructure can enhance education standards. In addition, inculcating gender transformative education and providing psycho-social support to teachers and students can as well contribute in this regard.

Hence, Education Emergency, despite several challenges in its path, is a much-needed step to resolve the education crisis; however, with sincere will and effective policy implementation, the hardships it faces can be mitigated.