



THE REFORMERS EDITION - V



Rendezvous with Dr. Fazlullah Pechuho

Secretary School Education Department
Government of Sindh

What would be the benefits of bifurcation of Education Department? Education & Literacy Department was the biggest department in Sindh. There were a lot of challenges in terms of administration and management. Even after the bifurcation it is still a big department because approximately 91 percent of the schools are the primary schools. With this restructuring we will now be able to focus on primary education as there is a separate mandate and powers for school and college education department.

What preparations have been made to achieve UN Sustainable Development Goal-4 (education)?

Efforts are being made to set up a secretariat for monitoring progress on SGD-4 at Planning, Development and Research Directorate.

What would be the top priorities during the Education Emergency which has been recently announced by Chief Minister Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah?

This is a message from the government to officials to change their posture and take education seriously. We want to bring about significant changes during this emergency to focus on access and quality, capacity building of teachers and improving overall education governance.

Education Department introduced management and non-management cadre for better management of schools but hiring of Head Masters has been pending for long, so when will this happen? Yes, there were a number of hurdles because some people went to the court but it is now amicably resolved. Appointment orders of 1080 Head Masters will be issued soon. These newly recruited Head Masters will be posted in the consolidated schools. Further, we will arrange 3-5 months induction training for them.

What are the key components for Sindh Education

Reform Program -III which is likely to start in 2017?

There are two major challenges being faced in the province; a) low learning outcomes and b) inadequate infrastructure. We are also thinking to introduce volunteer teaching program titled, 'Teach for Sindh'. We will hire competent fresh graduates through reputed Institutions. We will pay reasonable remuneration to these volunteer teachers. Moreover, we are focusing on improving the infrastructure; 200 new schools are being built. International development partners like Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) are also interested in contributing towards improvement of school infrastructure.

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Dear Readers,

We are very much happy to bring out the 5th edition of The Reformers and 1st of FY2016-17. We are continuously making concerted efforts to keep our stakeholders informed about all educational development activities happening in Education and Literacy Department. During this period, the most important thing that has taken place is the restructuring of Education and Literacy Department. Government of Sindh has now split this department into two; i.e. School Education and College Education, and Reform Support Unit has been placed under the School Education Department. We are very much hopeful that such development will enhance the education governance in Sindh and shall bring overall improvement in this field.



This issue will give an insight into important developments in the education sector particularly Secretary Education's interview about future interventions, Sindh Education Budget – allocation and expenditure trends, challenges in utilization of School Specific Budget, an analysis of Standardized Achievement Test-IV and pilot launch of internal communication system will make a good reading for all of you.

I am thankful to all stakeholders for their valuable contribution.

Allah may Bless us all.

Faisal Ahmed Uqaili
Chief Program Manager,
Reform Support Unit

JOINT EDUCATION SECTOR REVIEW - II



"Every child in Sindh will get quality education by successful implementation of Sindh Education Sector Plan."

Jam Mehtab Dahar
Minister
Education and Literacy Department
Government of Sindh



"I believe JESR-II promises to be a year that will bring all issues to the forefront with its practical and doable recommendations."

Faisal Ahmed Uqaili,
Chief Program Manager,
Reform Support Unit



"Money is not a problem, we already have enough and can re-appropriate from other sources to fulfill the commitments for educating children in Sindh."

Syed Murad Ali Shah
Chief Minister of Sindh

"Sindh would have its own education policy soon after the 18th amendment."

Dr. Fazlullah Pechuho
Secretary
School Education Department



"All of us know the situation of education in Sindh but together we all can work towards better future."

Umbreen Arif
Senior Education Specialist
World Bank



"We need to motivate our teachers and community to come forward and play their part."

Naheed Shah Durani
MD, Sindh Education Foundation



"Internationally the world needs to move forward on education provision of quality, with learning, with equity for all children."

Elen Van Kalmthout
Chief Education, UNICEF Pakistan

"We acknowledge the tremendous efforts of the government of Sindh for making governance, Access, quality, and sector finance within the education sector and to implement the article 25 A of the Constitution of Pakistan."

Shahla Rashid ud Din
Education Specialist, UNICEF



"Capacity issues should be tackled on priority basis to ensure utilization of funds."

Edouard Lamot
Senior Education Specialist
Global Partnership for Education



"We must continue working together to ensure quality of education to children of Sindh."

Denise Herbol
Deputy Mission Director
Sindh & Balochistan, USAID



"We have to strategically utilize the resources to fulfill our promise for achieving targets under education sector plan."

Nyi Nyi Thuang
Provincial Coordinator
UNESCO



"Continuous dialogue and strong partnership between division, district, region and the provincial education establishment is needed."

Zeeshan Tariq
Chief Advisor, SESSP
European Union



"Non-formal education will bring back many out of school children to schools."

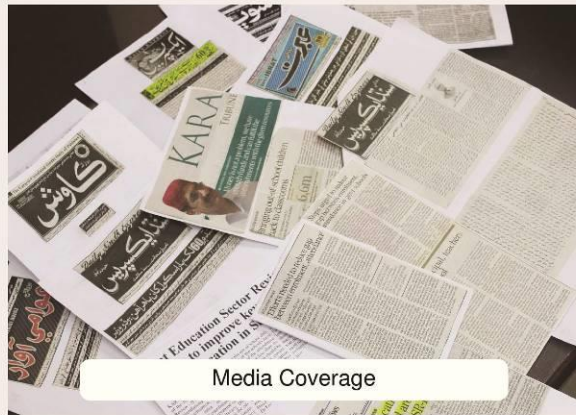
Chiho Ohashi
Chief Adviser
JICA, AQAL



"I don't remember at any meeting in the education department after the SESSP was approved, where this document was not referred."

Sadiqa Salahuddin
Director
Indus Resource Centre

MOVING AHEAD WITH EDUCATION



SINDH MINISTER FOR EDUCATION DISCUSSES EDUCATION CHALLENGES WITH REGIONAL DIRECTORS TO IMPROVE EDUCATION INDICATORS



The Minister of Education, Jam Mehtab Dahar along with Secretary School Education Department Dr. Fazlullah Pechuho had a meeting with regional directors of Primary and Secondary Education in Karachi. The Minister said that all officers will now spend two days in office and the rest of the five days will be in the field.

Meanwhile, Secretary of School Education referring to the fake letters said that all officers should send their stamp and sample signatures so that in case of any controversy it can be verified. In order to monitor the performance of field visit, the Minister has setup Whats App group for all the officers to monitor time and performance of Education Department's staff.

Further, he said that a register will be placed in every school for the members of monitoring committees to record their school visit observations. For the capacity building of teachers, district based training programs will be initiated. Referring to the complaints about overcharging admission fees, the Minister advised all college principals that they should stop charging excess college admission fee(s) and return the excess fee(s) if they have already charged it, otherwise, strict action will be taken against them. Lastly, the Minister advised all regional directors to involve civil society, community and parents for increasing enrollment and improving school performance.

"Spend two days in office and the rest of the five days in the field to increase enrollment and school performance."

Jam Mehtab Dahar
Minister for Education
Government of Sindh

RESTRUCTURING OF EDUCATION & LITERACY DEPARTMENT



Government of Sindh has restructured Education and Literacy Department to bifurcate it into two departments; School Education and College Education Department. The idea behind this decision is to pay proper attention from primary to college level, which will result in further improvement in education governance, management and administration in the province. Now there will be two secretaries (BS20) instead of one who will look after schools and colleges separately as a head of department. New post of Secretary College Education Department has been created. School Education Department will deal with primary to secondary level education and all associated departments, which are mentioned as under

1. Directorate of Schools Education Primary/Elementary, Secondary and Higher Secondary.
2. Directorate of Curriculum, Assessment and Research.
3. Provincial Institute of Teachers Education (PITE)
4. Directorate of Non-Formal and Literacy.
5. Curriculum Wing, School Education Department (Up to matriculation).
6. Directorate of Planning, Development and Research for Schools
7. Directorate of inspection/Registration of Private Institutions.
8. Directorate of Human Resource and Training.
9. Directorate of Monitoring and Evaluation

10. Sindh Education Foundation (SEF)
11. Reform Support Unit (RSU)
12. Sindh Text Book Board(STBB)
13. Sindh Education Policy Commission for Schools.
14. Board of Secondary Education.
15. Public Private Partnership Node.
16. Complaint Resolution Cell, School education Department.
17. ITData Centre, Karachi.
18. Education Works for Schools.
19. Construction of Schools through Consultants
20. Sindh Teachers Education and Development Authority
21. Search Committee.
22. Accreditation Board/ Service Delivery Commission.

PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 4 (EDUCATION)

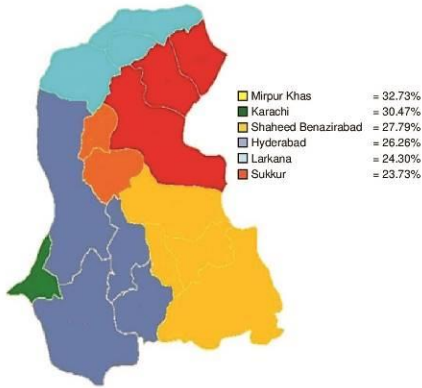
Upholding commitment to education, Government of Sindh is endeavoring to achieve targets of education under UN Sustainable Development Goals. In order to provide every child with an opportunity to attain quality education. Provincial Committee for Sustainable Development Goal 4, which is about education, has been notified by School Education Department to oversee its implementation in Sindh.

Goal-4
"Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning."

In addition to this, a Thematic Working Group SDG4 has been entrusted with a task of reviewing and aligning the targets of the SDG4 with the existing policies, plans and legislation, and selecting indicators. This group has been notified and will further develop a strategic road map for the implementation, coordination and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals at the provincial level.

STANDARDIZED ACHIEVEMENT TEST -IV RESULTS

Region-wise performance in Class-V



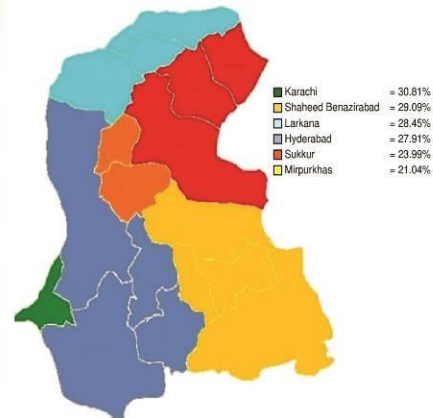
Top 10 Districts Class-V

S. No.	District	Language Average (%)	Math Average (%)	Science Average (%)	Overall Average (%)
1	West Karachi	41	25.77	27.14	31.3
2	Malir Karachi	39.51	27.1	26.69	31.1
3	Korangi Karachi	41.61	24.09	27.27	30.99
4	Central Karachi	41.01	23.48	25.61	30.03
5	South Karachi	39.79	24.05	25.89	29.91
6	Sujawal	36.36	26.59	26.78	29.91
7	East Karachi	40.62	22.73	25.63	29.66
8	Tharparkar	29.5	30.79	27.68	29.32
9	Naushero Feroz	39.9	28.27	24.24	29.14
10	Jacobabad	27.48	29.45	28.51	28.48

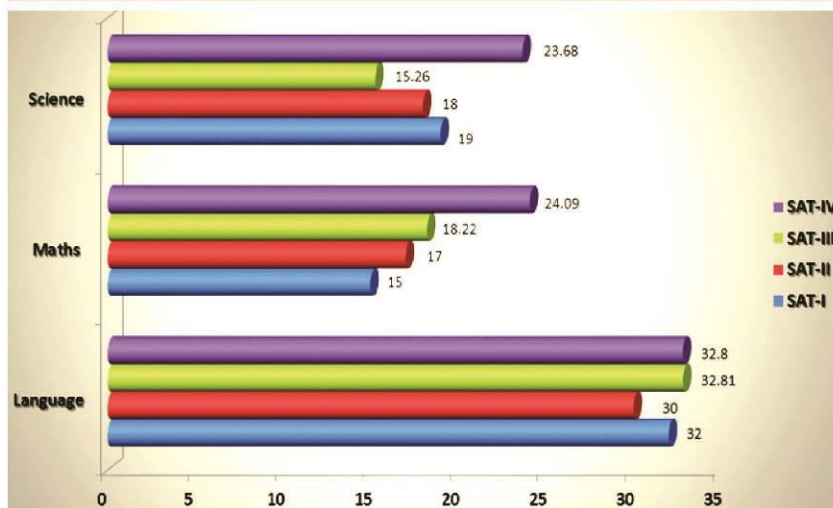
Top 10 Districts Class-VIII

S. No.	District	Language Average (%)	Math Average (%)	Science Average (%)	Overall Average (%)
1	Korangi Karachi	47.66	21.23	27.11	32
2	Tharparkar	38.14	27.95	27.98	31.36
3	Central Karachi	44.91	21.35	26.4	30.89
4	West Karachi	45.11	20.99	26.55	30.88
5	Sujawal	40.18	23.78	28.29	30.75
6	Shikarpur	29.11	31.49	30.22	30.27
7	South Karachi	43.3	21.23	25.93	30.15
8	Naushero Feroz	38.78	25.87	25.49	30.05
9	Malir Karachi	40.89	23.52	25.48	29.96
10	Jacobabad	29.19	30.69	29.83	29.9

Region-wise performance in Class-VIII



SAT THROUGHOUT YEARS



- The SAT started in 2012 and has been taking place on annual basis since then. The 4th round of the test was conducted in Feb-March 2016.
- To assess the learning outcomes of the public schools' students, the Reform Support Unit of Education and Literacy Department, Government of Sindh organizes the Standardized Achievement Test (SAT) as a large scale population based study.
- The analysis of last four years clearly shows a positive change in overall scores of SAT-IV at the provincial level but there is still need for improvement.

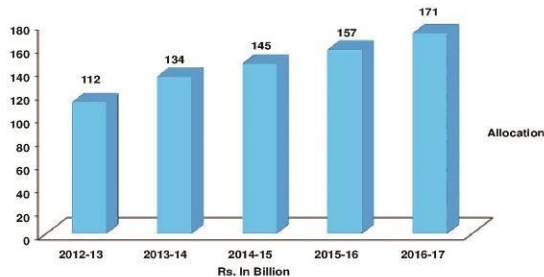
SINDH EDUCATION BUDGET "ALLOCATION & EXPENDITURE TRENDS"

A PILOT ONLINE INTERNAL COMMUNICATION PLATFORM LAUNCHED

Government of Sindh accords a high priority to education. It spends a significant portion of budget on improving education indicators in the province. Out of a total provincial budget of PKR 869 billion (2016-17) PKR 158 billion has been allocated to education sector. The education budget includes allocations for higher education, technical education and medical education, alongside allocation for the primary and secondary education.

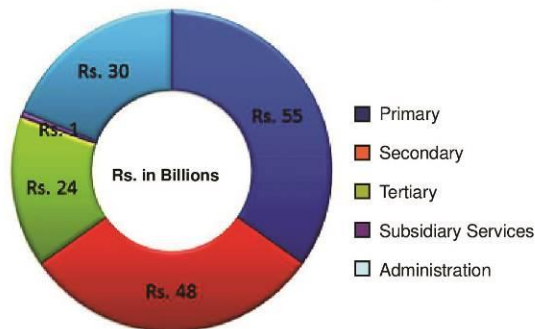
Moreover, development expenditure allocations on education sector have also been made for PKR 13 billion are allocated for development schemes.

Sindh Education Budget-Trends



A brief analysis of the education budget indicates that there has been a consistent increase in budgetary allocations during the past few years, which reflects commitment of Government of Sindh towards education. However, there have been challenges on expenditure side. Overall utilization trend is positive as far as salary component is concerned but utilization of nonsalary component remains a challenge. In this regard, various efforts are underway to improve utilization of nonsalary budget. Budgetary Allocations for the Primary, Secondary, Tertiary and Education Administration are reflected in the chart below.

Share of Primary, secondary and administrative budget FY2016-17



Primary Education takes up a major share of budgetary allocations for financial year 2016-17, which is PKR 55 billion. Secondary Education has grabbed a share of PKR 48 billion. Allocations for Tertiary Education for the current year are PKR 24 billion, while allocations for Subsidiary Education amounts to PKR 1 billion, and Administration has allocations for PKR 30 billion.

Challenges concerning utilization of budgets

- Lack of clear understanding of financial and procurement guidelines.
- Insufficient tracking of budget utilization.
- Delayed release of funds.

In order to overcome these issues, it would be important to improve and enhance the capacity of key officials particularly Drawing & Disbursement Officer (DDOs) in the areas of planning, budgeting, procurement and financial management. Besides that, improvement in process and work flows with respect to releases, approval of various committees related to procurement need to be streamlined.

The School Education Department (SED), Government of Sindh is gearing up for a modern communication system. The Internal Communication System (ICS) has been launched, whereby the department employees will have an official email addresses and notifications will be routed through the system.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

The system is designed with a conceptual framework that the ICT enabled platform would enhance intra institutional responses.



The system provides an online data repository, an integrated complaint management system, directory of all employees along with connectivity at district level. In short, this will streamline internal communications, improve coordination and facilitate information sharing within the department. The system provides comprehensive security protocols for protection of data, online virus scanning for webmail and document repository, hierarchy of access to information is included in the design so that the department staff, officers, senior officers, etc. will be able to access only those parts of the system that are relevant to their work. The entire system will be up and running by early next year.





BRITISH COUNCIL BRINGS 61500 OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN BACK TO GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS IN SINDH.

British Council Pakistan has successfully enrolled 61500 out of school children in 18 districts across Sindh under its project called, "ILMPOSSIBLE-Take A Child to School" It is a nationwide enrollment program co-funded by British Council and Educate A Child (Program of Education Above All of Qatar). Initiated in 2014, the project set out with the target to enroll 185,000 Out of School Children back into government primary schools in its first 3 years. The project brings together a combination of local experience and global technical expertise through partnerships with local and international NGOs, local CSOs, community groups and education departments. These partners share the goal of improving enrollment and retention rates amongst Out of School Children (OOSC) in Pakistan.

ILMPOSSIBLE works through a network of trained youth based volunteers throughout the country where each volunteer is trained specifically on the lines of community mobilization, civic engagement, community mapping, problem solving etc. For the scope of this project, these volunteers are called ILMBASSADORS.

Each ILMBASSADOR is committed to enrolling 10 children and then to ensure the retention of these children via periodic visits to schools. Since its inception, ILMPOSSIBLE-Take a Child to School has enrolled 210,000 Out of School Children (boys and girls) in Government primary schools across the country with the help of 14,600 trained volunteers in the targeted Union Councils of 65 districts. Specific to Sindh, so far 61,500 children have been enrolled in 18 Districts across the province; this is achieved through a network of 3,900 ILMBASSADORS trained in Sindh.

ILMBASSADOR is committed to enrolling 10 children and then to ensure the retention of these children via periodic visits to schools.

British Council Pakistan has successfully enrolled 61500 out of school children in 18 districts across Sindh under its project called, "ILMPOSSIBLE-Take A Child to School"

It is a testament to a robust retention strategy, coupled with a thorough monitoring and evaluation plan that around 92% of the children enrolled under this program are retained in the schools. A Life skills and physical education component, DOSTI, is also incorporated in the ILMPOSSIBLE-Take A Child to School to facilitate the retention of these children by creating a positive relationship of the Child, the school and the teacher.

To provide support to these volunteers, Mohalla Committees are formed comprising of the 78 members of the community that have influencing power in their particular community. The delivery partner organizations engage these young volunteers and Mohalla Committees to plan and implement enrollment drives twice a year in March and September—typically two enrollment cycles in the country.

In the backdrop of a large number of out of school children in Pakistan it is very much important for public and private sector to synergize their efforts and exchange learning experiences with each in order to tackle the challenge in effective manners. In this connection, ILMPOSSIBLE-Take A Child to School provides a model that has the potential to speed up the process of enrolling these children back into schools. As the project enters its second phase, there is a lot of scope for collaboration with School Education Department, Government of Sindh as both entities share common objectives and goals.

SCHOOLS SPECIFIC BUDGET UTILIZATION

"We have utilized school specific budget on stationary, books for library and laboratory", told Asif Solangi, Head Master, Government Boys High School (GBHS) Mehran, (SEMIS Code 418030071) in district Sukkur. A total enrollment of the school is 350. There are many more schools like this in Sukkur and Larkana region which have been able to spend School Specific Budget despite several challenges. Only two regions could spend 99 percent of the released budget in timely manners. It became possible only because of personal efforts and proactive approach of regional directors of Sukkur and Larkana otherwise schools would not be able to overcome administrative and technical issues relating to proper utilization of the released budget. Sukkur and Larkana serve as a best example for the rest of the province.

Moreover, School Education Department, Government of Sindh has taken stock of underspend situation and has decided to organize a series of capacity building measures to enhance understanding about Sindh Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (SPPRA) rules and remove constraints being faced by procurement committee members. The department extensively supported the schools' management through capacity building sessions, real time response to queries coupled with hand holding support to all districts to ensure timely utilization of budget. School Specific Budget (SSB) is provided to every Primary, Elementary, Secondary and Higher Secondary School across Sindh province.

SCHOOL SPECIFIC BUDGET CAN BE SPENT AGAINST THE FOLLOWING HEADS:

Furniture & Fixtures, Stationary and Traveling Allowance
Inclass Material

Library
Laboratory
Sports and Cocurricular Activities

EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS



School Inauguration Ceremony at District Khairpur under Sindh Basic Education Program



14th August Celebrations at Reform support Unit



Orientation Session of Internal Communication System Pilot Launch



Best Teacher Awards at Karachi



Literacy Day celebrations at Kashmore



Faisal Ahmed Uqaili, Chief Program Manager speaking at a Seminar titled, "Reading to Learn" on World Literacy Day



14th August Celebration at APWA GGPS # 2 Liaqatabad Town Karachi



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