



Press Release Publishing Report

**Experts call for increase in budget to
ensure free and compulsory education in
Punjab**

Lahore

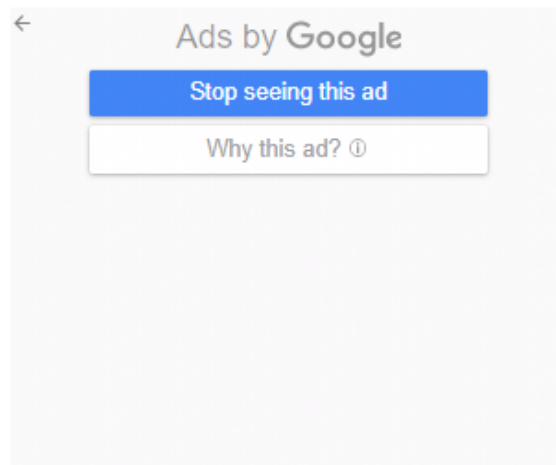
July 02, 2022

Lahore

Call to increase budget for girls' education

By Our Correspondent | July 02, 2022

LAHORE: Education experts at an advocacy forum while highlighting the vitality of education towards national progress emphasised on the increased allocation of budget for girls' education especially in Punjab.



According to a press release, Awaz CDS Pakistan arranged the advocacy forum here with a major focus to highlight the importance of education without any gender bias. Chief Executive Awaz CDS Pakistan Zia ur Rehman, Prof Dr Qais Aslam, Additional Secretary (P&D) School System Qaiser Rasheed and others spoke on the occasion while a number of representatives of education sector organisations joined the forum.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/970835-call-to-increase-budget-for-girls-education>

'Fuel cost could spur dropout rate'

Over 2 million children in Punjab are out of school, according to stats

YOUSUF ABBASI
LAHORE

Expressing concern regarding the 2.2 million out of school children in the province, the majority being girls, experts have stressed the implementation of the Free and Compulsory Education Act and girls' right to secondary education in Punjab.

These thoughts were expressed in a consultation session on the Implementation

of Free & Compulsory Primary Education Act and Girls' Right to Secondary Education, organised by the Awaz Centre for Development Studies and the National Commission for Human Rights.

The major focus of the session was to emphasise necessary initiatives to ensure the primary education of children and to reduce the dropout rate of girls from secondary schools, in order to guarantee economic and social stability through an educated population.

Awaz CDS Chief Executive Mohammad Ziaur Rehman, National Commission

for Human Rights Commissioner Nadeem Ashraf, School Education Department Director Ghulam Farid, MPA Uswa Aftab, Ayesha Iqbal and other academics and NGO members attended the consultation.

In his opening remarks, Ziaur Rahman highlighted the significance of girls' quality secondary education and explained the grey areas in the way of girls' education in Punjab.

He urged the Punjab government to immediately notify the already approved Punjab Free and Compulsory Education Act

2014. He stressed the need for an increase in education budget, as development allocations are only being made to the Punjab Education Foundation (PEF) and Punjab Education Initiative Management Authority (PEIMA).

He warned that the fuel price hike is causing girls to leave schools, particularly after summer vacations.

The commissioner of the National Commission for Human Rights discussed the bottlenecks and challenges in implementing the free and compulsory education act and ensuring girls' basic right to educa-

Speakers urged the govt to notify the implementation of Free & Compulsory Primary Education Act

tion for moving the nation towards stability.

MPA Ayesha Iqbal stressed that Governor Balighur Rehman should get the education act notified without delay.

MPA Uswa Aftab stressed the importance of ensuring that every child is getting basic education and the country is progressing towards achieving the SDGs.

<https://tribune.com.pk/epaper/news/Lahore/2022-07-03/NDM3ZTM0NDYyZjhIoTc0ZmUwMjdjMGZjYWRhYzQyOGUuanBIZw%3D%3D>

Laure

Increase in budget to ensure free education urged

By News desk - July 3, 2022

Pakistan
OBSERVER



Lahore City

Education experts at an advocacy forum while projecting the vitality of education towards an educated society and national progress have emphasized on the need for girls education with more focus on the increased allocation of budget for this sector especially in Punjab.

The advocacy forum was arranged by the Awaz CDS Pakistan here with a major focus to highlight the importance of education without any gender bias and raise demand for sufficient budgetary allocation for education sector.

<https://pakobserver.net/increase-in-budget-to-ensure-free-education-urged/>

National Herald
TRIBUNE

Founder: Ghulam Akbar

Monday, July 4th, 2022

Experts call for increase in education budget in Punjab

LAHORE, July 1: Education experts at an advocacy forum while projecting the vitality of education towards an educated society and national progress, have emphasized on the need for girls education with more focus on the increased allocation of budget for this sector especially in Punjab. The advocacy forum was arranged by the Awaz CDS Pakistan here with a major focus to highlight the importance of education without any gender bias and raise demand for sufficient budgetary allocation for education sector. Chief Executive Awaz CDS Pakistan Zia urRehman; Professor of Economics, University of Central Punjab, Lahore, DrQaisAslam, Additional Secretary (P&D) School System Qaiser Rasheed, and Director General of Punjab Assembly AnayatUllahLak; spoke on the occasion while a number of representatives of education sector organizations joined the forum. In his opening remarks, Zia urRehman gave an

number of barricades in terms of social circumstances, access to schools, paucity of public funds, lack of furniture and other facilities. According to him, these bottlenecks can be removed significantly if the provincial government prioritized this important sector by earmarking an increased chunk of the budget. He said that according to the Pakistan Bureau of statistics (PSLM 2019-20), 16% urban while 28% rural children of Punjab are still Out of School whereas percentage of out of school children is increasing which shows a need of great seriousness towards education as we have the one of the largest pool of young people who will go wasted otherwise. Additional Secretary (P&D) School System Qaiser Rasheed acknowledged the irritants towards equal opportunities, especially in remote areas. He threw light on the budget allocated for education, especially girls education. He further said that Chief Minister Punjab, Mr. Hamza

the province. He said that free compulsory education can play a significant role in ensuring education to all with increased students enrolment at schools. He said that the provincial government's initiatives towards free and compulsory education is a significant initiative and mentioned provision of free text books to students on annual basis. He assured to also take up the issue of delayed notification of the Punjab Free and Compulsory Education Act 2014 with the relevant government authorities as it would pave the way towards provision of equal and quality education to all. Education Champion-Ms. MariumAmjad shared that according to Economic Survey of Pakistan 2021-2022, 25.7 million children were enrolled in Primary classes (I-V) and Out of these 11.7 million (45.5%) were girls. It is interesting to note that only 8.25 million went up to the next level (Middle stage of VI-VIII classes) and out of which 3.8



<https://dailynt.com/news/story/96628>

Experts call for increase in budget to ensure free education

Advocacy forum highlights importance of education without any gender bias



Our Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: Education experts at an advocacy forum while projecting the vitality of education towards an educated society and national progress, have emphasized on the need for girls education with more focus on the increased allocation of budget for this sector especially in Punjab.

The advocacy forum was arranged by the Awaz CDS Pakistan here with a major focus to highlight the importance of education without any gender bias and raise demand for sufficient budgetary allocation for education sector.

Chief Executive Awaz CDS Pakistan Zia ur Rehman; Professor of Economics, University of Central Punjab, Lahore, Dr Qais Aslam, Additional Secretary (P&D) School System Qaiser Rasheed, and Director General of Punjab Assembly Anayat Ullah Lak; spoke on the occasion while a number of representatives of education sector organizations joined the forum.

In his opening remarks, Zia ur Rehman gave an overview of the educational facilities in the Punjab province in terms of gender and region. He explained that education plays a vital role in shaping up an educated and skilled society that leads to national economic prosperity.

He further emphasized upon the provincial government to ensure equal as well as quality education in all areas of the province without any discrimination.

To achieve this goal, the Awaz CDS Pakistan Chief Executive urged the government to immediately notify the Punjab Free and Compulsory Education Act 2014.

In his remarks, Dr. Qais Aslam from the University of Central Punjab said that the current overall education level in the

province is not up to the mark as there still exist a number of barricades in terms of social circumstances, access to schools, paucity of public funds, lack of furniture and other facilities.

According to him, these bottlenecks can be removed significantly if the provincial government prioritized this important sector by earmarking an increased chunk of the budget. He said that according to the Pakistan Bureau of statistics (PSLM 2019-20), 16% urban while 28% rural children of Punjab are still Out of School whereas percentage of out of school children is increasing which shows a need of great seriousness towards education as we have the one of the largest pool of young people who will go wasted otherwise.

Additional Secretary (P&D) School System Qaiser Rasheed acknowledged the irritants towards equal opportunities, especially in remote areas. He threw light on the budget allocated for education, especially girls education. He further said that Chief Minister Punjab, Mr. Hamza Shehbaz has already called for briefings from education sector and he appreciated the afternoon schools programs.

He highlighted the importance of Accelerated Learning Programs (ALPs) and vocational trainings alongwith scholarships given to underprivileged children and parents of communities working at Brick kilns. He, however, said that despite these odd factors the provincial government is making all-out efforts to ensure provision of facilities at schools across the province.

Anayat Ullah Lak shared the history of Free and Compulsory Education Act and he endorsed that the girls education is not getting the level of seriousness required to

ensure quality education for girls in the province. He said that free compulsory education can play a significant role in ensuring education to all with increased students enrolment at schools. He said that the provincial government's initiatives towards free and compulsory education is a significant initiative and mentioned provision of free text books to students on annual basis.

He assured to also take up the issue of delayed notification of the Punjab Free and Compulsory Education Act 2014 with the relevant government authorities as it would pave the way towards provision of equal and quality education to all.

Education Champion-Ms. Mariam Anjaal shared that according to Economic Survey of Pakistan 2021-2022, 25.7 million children were enrolled in Primary classes (I-V) and Out of these 11.7 million (45.5%) were girls. It is interesting to note that only 8.25 million went up to the next level (Middle stage of VI-VI-II classes) and out of which 3.8 million (46.0%) were girls and only 2.5 million passed their metric (class X) and reached Inter level, out of which 1.3 million (52%) were girls. She demanded attention from Punjab Government in form of declaring Education Emergency in the province.

A question-answer session followed the discussion, where the participants raised related questions regarding contribution on the part of private sector and the government initiatives on free and compulsory education in the province.

In his concluding remarks, Chief Executive Awaz CDS Pakistan Zia ur Rehman thanked the stakeholders, experts and other participants for giving their inputs on the advocacy forum agenda.

Experts call for increase in budget to ensure free and compulsory education in Punjab

July 1, 2022

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<https://islamabadpost.com.pk/experts-call-for-increase-in-budget-to-ensure-free-and-compulsory-education-in-punjab/>

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NEWS THAT TRAVELS

Experts call for increase in budget to ensure free and compulsory education in Punjab

STAFF REPORTER

LAHORE

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