

Report on poverty in Pakistan

Voice for Justice

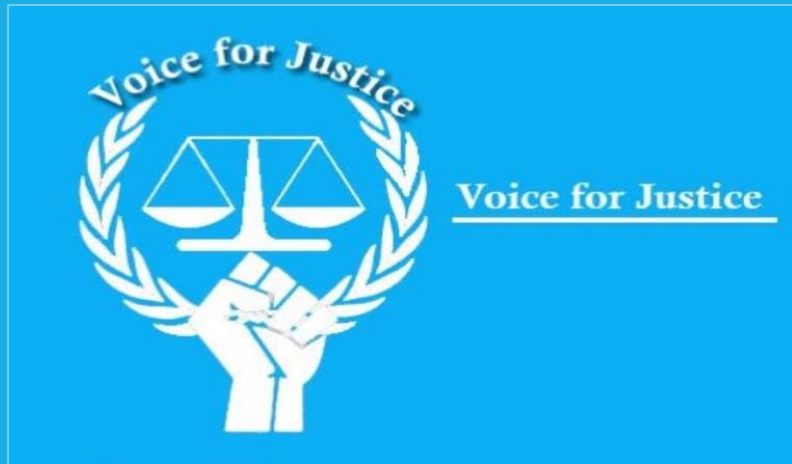


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Purpose for this report



Pakistan is a poor country and most of its population lives in adverse circumstances. Reports reveal that more than 40% population of Pakistan lives below the line of poverty. A large number of people in our country do not have a proper place to live in. This miserable condition has given birth to an increase in beggars and needy people. In Pakistan, poverty is increasing day by day. The government has taken different effective steps to reduce it. It should also helped with for example, provide credit facilities and use labor-intensive techniques of production to reduce poverty. Poverty in Pakistan has fallen dramatically.

The statistic by the 2007-08 fiscal year, when it was estimated that 17.2% of the total population lived below the poverty line.



Introduction

Pakistan is located in South Asia and controls part of Kashmir. The nation was first founded in 1947 during the partition of India, leading to lasting tensions between the two countries. Due to an ethnic civil war in 1971, East Pakistan became the country of Bangladesh. Today, Pakistan is one of the most populated countries worldwide.

It has a robust reputation, as well as cultural and religious history. The nation relies on many natural resources for economic growth. These include minerals and oils, as well as traditional textiles that are known worldwide. Even with natural resources, there is rising homelessness in the country.

Here are seven realities of homelessness in Pakistan. This report by voice for justice is going to take you to the immeasurable truthful facts and filled you with knowledge regarding the condition of Pakistani people and the horrible conditions due to poverty. The objective for writing this report is that we should help spreading the knowledge regarding the painful reality of our poor people who don't have shelter under their head.

Their mothers and daughter has to sleep on the streets, roads or other public places. Which is not so safe for the females and children but they are helpless against the situation, every day they are fighting against the hunger, poverty and livelihood. The Pakistan multidimensional poverty report launched in 2016 showed that four out of 10 Pakistanis live in multidimensional poverty. Moreover, there are extreme gap across provinces. 73% people in Fata and 71% in Baluchistan live in multidimensional poverty compared to 31% in Punjab and 43% in Sindh. Pakistan has determined its poverty line and poverty estimation multidimensional poverty compared to 31% in Punjab and 43% in Sindh. Pakistan has determined its poverty line and poverty estimation method.



Summary

Pakistan has determined its poverty line and poverty estimation methodology in 2001 based on the consumption data of 1998-99. Headcount poverty in Pakistan is estimated using Pakistan Household Integrated Economic Survey data on the basis of food energy intake (FEI) method as is the case with many developing countries. Planning Commission estimated official poverty line at Rs. 637.54 per person per month at 1998- 99 prices on the basis of a threshold level of consuming minimum 2350 kcal/day. The poverty lines thereafter, updated for each successive survey period to incorporate the inflation impact between two survey periods. This methodology uses 1998-99 consumption basket and regress overall expenditure of the lowest 60 percent of population on minimum calories (2350 kcal/day). The normative procedure of calculating poverty continued till 2007-08. However, the government demonstrated the difficulty in presenting lower official poverty estimates of around 17 per cent in the wake of global financial crisis and domestic economic meltdown. The figure of 12.4 per cent for the year 2010-11 furthered scepticism. The data and the mainstream narrative on poverty reduction was extensively contested. It highlights the fact that data on poverty are inherently political as well as technical, so any proof of progress presented as 'official' needs to be defensible and verifiable, and be accepted widely by stakeholders. The government formed a Technical Committee to review the official methodology in 2012 and its deliberations tried to seek the necessary buy-in from key stakeholders. The Committee after several rounds of discussion and deliberations pointed out following shortcomings in the official methodology;

- i) The Poverty line and basket estimated in 2001 on the basis of 1999 data became outdated and no more fully reflect changes in income and consumption patterns of society.
- ii) The official methodology does not fully comprehend the variation in consumption patterns especially in non-food segment.
- iii) The updating of poverty line by using CPI is likely to create an urban bias which is distorting the poverty situation. These decisions were about: 1. Choice of reference group 2. Choice of calorie threshold 3. Choice of methodology the revised reference group covers households that lie in the 10th to 40th percentile of the distribution of per adult equivalent consumption expenditure which means it excludes the bottom and the top of the distribution-in line with best practice. This does not mean that lowest 10 percent are excluded from the poverty estimation. The reference group selection is primarily done to set a higher welfare standard for poverty estimation. This sets a more representative benchmark for poverty estimation. The caloric standard is kept constant at 2,350 calories per adult equivalent per day to maintain consistency of the normative standard.

پاکستان میں غربت - Poverty in Pakistan

Poverty in Pakistan has fallen dramatically when it was estimated that 17.2% of the total population lived below the poverty line. The declining trend in poverty as seen in the country during the 1970s and 1980s was reversed. This phenomenon has been referred to as the "poverty bomb". In 2001, the government was assisted by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in preparing the Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper that suggests guidelines to reduce poverty in the country. According to a report submitted by Ministry of Planning and Development in the National

Assembly of Pakistan, about 29.5% Pakistani lived below the poverty line which translates into 55 million people.

As of 2017, Pakistan's Human Development Index (HDI) is 0.562, significantly lower than Bangladesh's HDI which is 0.608. Bangladesh was formerly another part of the country and had a much lower HDI. Pakistan's HDI is one of the lowest in Asia, after Yemen, Afghanistan and Syria. Wealth distribution in Pakistan is slightly varied, with the top 10% of the population earning 27.6% and the bottom 10% earning only 4.1% of the income. Pakistan generally has a low Gini coefficient and therefore a decent distribution of income. According to the United Nations Human Development Report, Pakistan's human development indicators, especially those for women, fall significantly below those of countries with comparable levels of per-capita income. Pakistan also has a higher infant mortality rate (88 per 1000) than the South Asian average (83 per 1000). As of 2017, the Asian Development Bank reports that there are approximately 210 million people living in Pakistan. In 2011, 12.4% of Pakistanis live below in Pakistan's definition of poverty. Statistics vary due to the definition of poverty. According to the World Bank, poverty in Pakistan fell from 64.3% in 2002 to 29.5% in 2014. Poverty headcount ratio at \$1.90 a day (2011 PPP) (% of population) 6.1% in 2013 to 3.9% in 2015. Pakistan has made substantial progress in reducing poverty giving it the second lowest headcount poverty rate in South Asia. Aid Data cites the World Bank and states that overall "Pakistan has done well in converting economic growth into poverty reduction." According to World Bank districts varied widely in poverty, with the richest district Abbottabad at a headcount rate of 5.8pc and the poorest district Washuk District in Baluchistan at 72.5pc.

Poverty and Gender

The gender discriminatory practices in Pakistani society also shape the distribution of poverty in the country. Traditional gender roles in Pakistan define the woman's place as in the home and not in the workplace, and define the man as the breadwinner. Consequently, the society invests far less in women than men. Women in Pakistan suffer from poverty of opportunities throughout their lives. Pakistan literacy is 71.8% compared to Male literacy at 82.5%. In legislative bodies, women constituted less than 3% of the legislature elected on general seats before 2002. The 1973 Constitution allowed reserved seats for women in both houses of parliament for a period of 20 years, thus ensuring that women would be represented in parliament regardless of whether or not they are elected on general seats. This provision lapsed in 1993, so parliaments elected subsequently did not have reserved seats for women. Reserved seats for women have been restored after the election of 2002. Now women have 20% seats reserved for them in Parliament. Female labor rates in Pakistan are exceptionally low female.

Economic and social vulnerability

"Vulnerability" in this case stands for the underlying susceptibility of economically deprived people to fall into poverty as a result of exogenous random shocks. Vulnerable households are generally found to have low expenditure levels. Households are considered vulnerable if they do not have the means to smooth out their expenses in response to changes in income. In general, vulnerability is likely to be high in households clustered around the poverty line. Since coping strategies for vulnerable households depend primarily on their sources of income, exogenous shocks can increase reliance on non-agricultural wages. Such diversification has not occurred in many parts of Pakistan, leading to an increased dependence on credit. While economic vulnerability is a key factor in the rise of poverty in Pakistan, vulnerability also arises from social powerlessness, political disenfranchisement, and ill-functioning and distortionary institutions, and these also are important causes of the persistence of vulnerability among the poor. Also, lack of adequate health care by the state lead the poor to seek private sources, which are expensive, but still preferable to the possibility of medical malpractice and being given expired medicines in state run medical facilities.

5. Homeless people in Pakistan- پاکستان میں بے گھر لوگ

Pakistan is estimated to have a population of 220 million. Pakistan is a growing population country, the nation faces limitations to shelters and standards of living. Households are considered vulnerable if they do not have the means to smooth out their expenses in response to changes in income. In general, vulnerability is likely to be high in households clustered around the poverty line. Since coping strategies for vulnerable households depend primarily on their sources of income, exogenous shocks can increase reliance on non-agricultural wages. The conditions of homelessness in Pakistan disproportionately affect women and children because of malnutrition, healthcare and access to education. In 2016, an official report by the Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform was released on multidimensional poverty being a factor in the poverty index, concluding that 39% of Pakistanis are living in multidimensional poverty. The percent has decreased over the past decade, but the progress is disproportionately effective from urban to rural regions. This index pertains to not only income and wealth but includes healthcare, education, living standards, etc. The report creates a path to understand how those in poverty may remain under the poverty line or become homeless due to outside factors. By creating these index factors, the government plans to help.

How it's effecting woman and children?

The population that is without stable shelter, women and children are the most affected. While living in temporary housing and slums, the homeless population is not receiving proper nutritious food. This leads to health issues, especially for young children who don't have access to proper

healthcare. Additionally, women and children aren't going to school because they spend their day finding short term work, protecting their shelter and selling goods on the street.

Natural disasters:

Over the past two decades, Pakistan has felt the effects of multiple natural disasters, from the lasting effects of an earthquake to yearly flooding. In 2005, northern Pakistan was dealing with the aftermath of a 7.6 magnitude earthquake, leaving 3.5 million people homeless, and generating severe damage to the whole region. Even with the government's help, many of those affected by the earthquake were left searching for employment and moving into temporary shelters/slums. Additionally, in 2010 Punjab felt the devastating effects of flooding that displaced at least 10 million people. Following the 2010 natural disaster UNCHR was quick to provide relief via materials for tents, food, etc. The region is still recovering from the damage and experiencing floods yearly. Damages from the floods sweep away temporary shelters, slums and require those without a home to constantly relocate.

Conclusion:

Even with an abundance of natural resources, Pakistan still suffers from a large homeless population. The country is working to better their living standards. Natural disasters and the poverty index are key to understanding the factors involved in the displacement of families living in poverty. These seven realities of homelessness in Pakistan bring context to the issue. They also highlight where the country and organizations are putting forth efforts for change.

Unemployment - بے روزگاری

It is a hard fact that unemployment has become the number one problem of Pakistan. This is growing by leaps and bounds not only in rural areas but also in urban areas of Pakistan. Many top universities of Pakistan producing thousands of young graduates every year but failing to get a good job on completion of their degree. It is a fact that we hear from our friends or relatives who do not get a job even after graduation. Pakistan Bureau of Statistics reported that the unemployment rate has increased to 5.1 % to 5.7 % and it is still growing. This is a very alarming situation especially for the youth as they are looking to get a job as soon as they have a degree in their hands. But unfortunately, we are lacking to provide adequate measures to reduce this unemployment rate. To address this persistent issue we should dig deep into the reasons behind this prevailing unemployment. Although there are many causes of this constant issue, some of the major bases of the problems are following.

A rapid increase in population:

The growth rate of Pakistan is considered to be one of the highest population proliferates. Rapid growth in population is also one of the major determinants of increasing the unemployment rate of Pakistan. There are several reasons for population growth; lack of family planning education, lack of women empowerment, poverty, preference to have more sons and many other constraints are there. These are the real threats of population growth and consequently a great cause of unemployment.

Constant recession:

The current economic crisis of Pakistan are huge due to this there are many trade-offs we can see from the last couple of years. The global recession has affected Pakistan's economy but unfortunately we failed to take extraordinary measures to get rid of with the crisis. IMF has approved a loan of \$6 Billion to support Pakistan economic condition which may help to have sustainable growth in the country. It may also help to reduce the unemployment rate in the country.

Impact on inflation:

A favorable economic growth, low unemployment can only help to maintain a low inflation rate. The increase in the general price level reduces the buying power of people. The government should also take measures to improve employment, so consumer's cost of living does not increase; hence there is a positive change in the economy and no increase in inflation.

Culture of Nepotism (Sifarish):

We can observe the culture of Nepotism everywhere in Pakistan. Irrespective of the fact, whether you are looking for a job in the private sector or public sector. The culture of Nepotism (Sifarish) exists there. Such social evils are also one of the major reasons for unemployment. People, who are hardworking and are skilled, don't find a good job because they don't have any reference, sifarish, resources and connectives. Such kind of preferential treatment should be eliminated from Pakistan and Jobs should be given on merit basis.

Lack of industries:

In the current situation as Pakistan is facing serious financial crisis which is resulting in a rapid increase of dollar rate because of the insufficient balance of payments, Pakistan stock exchange is also facing a downfall. The demand for labor has decreased. Due to the backwardness, the industrial sector is accommodating only a small number of people. On the other end, insufficient growth in the industrial sector can be seen. The causes behind this are shortage of capital and investment in the country to build new industries.

The solution to the problem:

I would like to suggest that both the government and the private sector should take the initiative to solve this persistent issue of Pakistan. Proper economic planning, effective Government policies law and order situation in the country should be improved. The latest technologies should be used in the agriculture sector, the use of advance machinery can help in boosting agriculture output in Pakistan. Almost 44 % of people get jobs from agriculture, which is 20.9 % of the total GDP of the country. Therefore we seriously need to expand this sector.

Un-Employment Rates

Administrative Unit	1998 Census			1981 Census
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	
<u>Pakistan</u>	19.68	20.19	5.05	3.1
Rural	19.98	20.40	5.50	2.3
Urban	19.13	19.77	4.49	5.2
<u>Khyber Pakhtunkhwa</u>	26.83	27.51	2.58	2.2
Rural	28.16	28.64	4.00	2.0
Urban	21.00	22.34	0.74	3.7
<u>Punjab</u>	19.10	19.60	5.50	3.2
Rural	18.60	19.00	6.00	2.5
Urban	20.10	20.7	4.70	5.0
<u>Sindh</u>	14.43	14.86	4.69	3.3
Rural	11.95	12.26	3.70	1.6
Urban	16.75	17.31	5.40	5.8
<u>Balochistan</u>	33.48	34.14	8.67	3.1
Rural	35.26	35.92	9.81	3.0
Urban	27.67	28.33	5.35	4.0

<u>Islamabad</u>	15.70	16.80	1.70	10.7
Rural	28.70	29.40	8.20	13.5
Urban	10.10	11.00	0.80	9.0

Unemployment Rate: It is the percentage of persons unemployed (those looking for work and temporarily laid off) to the total economically active population (10 years and above).
Source:

8. Education system in Pakistan - پاکستان میں نظام تعلیم

Education is the most essential ingredient for the development of a nation. It is a scientific proved fact that nations who have reached the heights of the development and prosperity have done it by using education and information as a tool to do it. Education is simply an investment to achieve both human and economic development. But unfortunately it is one of the biggest problems in Pakistan. The education system of Pakistan is rotten to the core. The literacy rate in Pakistan is recorded as about 55% in 2012-2013. The current education sector is facing crisis just like other major sectors of the country.

Following are the major problems in education system of Pakistan:

- The educational system of the country is based on different mediums which divides the students in two segments. Mostly private schools are English medium while the Government schools are Urdu medium. Regional differences are also a major cause for a poor educational system in Pakistan.
- Gender discrimination is very common in Pakistan. People are very conservative and they don't want their girls to go to school and get education. Due to this, the ratio of boys and girls in primary schools is 10:4.
- In Human Development Report Pakistan is placed at 136th position for having just 49.9% educated population. In addition to that, Pakistan is ranked at 113th out of 120 registered UN members according to the research conducted by UNESCO et al. Some of the very basic flaws of the education system in Pakistan contribute to the economic, ethnic and sociopolitical crisis within the country.

Moreover, the quality of education in most of the public schools and colleges is well below par; the teachers in government schools are not well trained. People who do not get job in any other sector, they try their luck in educational system. They are not professionally trained teachers so they are unable to train a nation. Quality of teaching needs special attention in rural areas where the teachers lack in all departments. Poverty is another factor that prohibits the parents to send their children to private school where the quality of education is high. Poor people get their

children admitted to Government schools. The teachers in Government schools are not professionally trained. They even don't take lectures and waste the precious time of the students. The allocation of funds for education sector by the Government of Pakistan are very low; only 2% of the total GDP. Government should increase this rate to improve the quality of educational system. Education is very important for the development of every country. It is the only cure for the disability of a country because today's students are tomorrow's nation builder. Government of Pakistan should take steps to remove the above mentioned problems so as to improve the quality of educational system of the country.

9. Woman empowerment - عورت کو باختیار بنانا

Gender differences have been widely observed among developing countries whenever it comes to investigate the position of women on research grounds. Every woman has the right to exercise her reproductive rights and to be protected from violence and harmful practices in both the development and humanitarian contexts. Gaps in empowerment are seen at the earliest stages of a girl's life. At every step, girls, adolescents and women face challenges and obstacles in making their own choices and determining their own path in the lives they wish to live. The study used primary source of data of 500 households which was collected from four districts of Punjab, Pakistan through a multistage random sampling technique. In this study, four indicators have been chosen in order to measure women empowerment and hierarchical multiple regression was applied to have a look at multiple professions and groupings of empowerment. This kind of gender differences results in different forms of discriminations and economic imbalances like health-care discrimination, lower access toward basic needs, unequal opportunities toward education and low power in all domains of life. For the prosperity and growth of both genders, males and females, to keep balance for social justice and to attain the precisely defined objectives, it is required to give independence and empowerment to women (UN Women, 2017).





The government faces numerous problems to safeguard employment opportunities for rapidly increasing population with strict social structures. The situation is even worse for the women folk who ultimately live a life of subordination and suppression inside the home. In our society, woman has the rights of academic achievements but at the same time she also has to acquire permission from her male heirs whether to utilize her educational experience for economic independence or not. Our women are not inferior to those in western countries but due to comparative availing basic amenities, which prevent them to play their due role in the national life. Not all Pakistanis women are beaten, sold or mutilated but majority are still facing imbalance treatment by their male heirs. If same facilities and opportunities are given to our women as the developed nations have done, they might be able to contribute in nation-building activities.

Woman Education

Women's education in Pakistan is a fundamental right of every female citizen, according to article thirty-seven of the Constitution of Pakistan, but gender discrepancies still exist in the educational sector. According to the 2011 Human Development Report of the United Nations Development Program, approximately twice as many males as females receive a secondary education in Pakistan, and public expenditures on education amount to only 2.7% of the GDP of the country.



Importance of Woman Education

Education has been of central significance to the development of human society. It can be the beginning, not only of individual knowledge, information and awareness, but also a holistic strategy for development and change. Education is very much connected to women's ability to form social relationships on the basis of equality with others and to achieve the important social good of self-respect. It is important as well, to mobility and to health and life. Education can allow women to participate in politics so they can ensure that their voices and concerns are heard and addressed in the public policy. It is also crucial for women's access to the legal system. Although it must be considered that religion and traditions of the Pakistani affect women's education. Some women may choose to keep the traditional roles because that is what they have always known and are used to. It would be a great opportunity if women were able to make their choice on their own, though. They should at least have the knowledge of both sides to be educated or to stay with the traditional ways.

Education is a critical input in human resource development and essential for the country's economic growth. It increases the productivity and efficiency of individuals, and it produces a skilled labor force that is capable of leading the economy towards sustainable growth and prosperity. The progress and wellbeing of a country largely depends on the education choices made available to its people. It can be one of the most powerful instruments of change. It can help a country to achieve its national goals via producing minds imbued with knowledge, skills, and competencies to shape its future destiny. The widespread recognition of this fact has created awareness on the need to focus upon literacy and elementary education not simply as a matter of social justice but more to foster economic growth, social well-being, and social stability. Women's education is so inextricably linked with the other facets of human development that to make it a priority is to also make change on a range of other fronts from the health and status of women to early childhood care; from nutrition, water and sanitation to community empowerment; from the reduction of child labor and other forms of exploitation to the peaceful resolution of conflicts.

Economic Benefits of woman education

Apart from the acquisition of knowledge and values conducive to social evolution, education also enables development of mind, training in logical and analytical thinking. It allows an individual to acquire organizational, managerial, and administrative skills. Moreover, enhanced self-esteem and improved social and financial status within a community is a direct outcome of education. Therefore, by promoting education among women, Pakistan can achieve social and human development, and gender equality. A large number of empirical studies have revealed that increase in women's education boosts their wages and that returns to education for women are frequently larger than that of men. Increase in the level of female education improves human development outcomes such as child survival, health and schooling. Lower female education has a negative impact on economic growth as it lowers the average level of human capital.

Developmental Economists argue that in developing countries female education reduces fertility, infant mortality and increases children's education. Gender inequality in education directly and significantly affects economic growth. Empirical studies done by using regression analysis reveal

the fact that the overall literacy rate, enrollment ratio, ratio of literate female to male have positive and significant impact on economic growth. Chaudhry (2007) investigated the impact of gender inequality in education on economic growth in Pakistan. The secondary source of time series data drawn from various issues has been used. In his regression analysis, he estimated a set of regressions showing a moderate explanatory power. The variables, overall literacy rate, enrollment ratio, ratio of literate female to male have positive and significant impact on economic growth. It was found that gender inequality in initial education reduces economic growth. In another empirical study, Chaudhry (2009) investigated factors affecting rural poverty in Southern Punjab (Pakistan), and he concluded that alleviation of poverty is possible by lowering the household size and dependency ratio, improving education, increasing female labor participation. He employed Logit regression models and used primary source of data from the project area of Asian Development Bank for estimation. Results indicate that as dependency level and household size increase the probability of being poor increases too. Education has the significant inverse relationship with poverty because it provides employment opportunities and rejects poverty. The inclusion of trained and education women workforce will not only ensure women's welfare, it will also increase the overall productivity of the workforce due to more competitiveness. Hence, the developmental and feminist economists argue that it is desirable for the government to allocate more resources towards women's education, as it is going to benefit the whole society.

Primary education

Primary education is compulsory for every child in Pakistan, but due to culture, poverty, and child labor, Pakistan has been unable to achieve 100% enrollment at the primary level.

Public sector

The total enrollment in primary public sector is 11,840,719; 57% (6,776,536) are boys and 43% (5,064,183) are girls. 79% of all the primary students in Pakistan are enrolled in rural schools, and the gender enrollment ratios are 59% and 41% for boys and girls respectively in rural Pakistan.

Private sector

The private schools are mostly located in urban centers, and the total enrollment in private primary schools was 4,993,698.

Middle school level

The enrollment level falls dramatically from primary to middle school level in Pakistan. These statistics can be very helpful in comprehending the problems faced by Pakistan in its educational sector.

Public sector

3,642,693 students are enrolled in public middle schools; 61% (2,217,851) are boys, and 39% (1,424,842) are girls. Of the total enrollment, 62% students are in rural areas, and the enrollment of girls are much lower in rural middle schools vis-à-vis urban schools. In rural schools, 66% enrolled students are boys and 34% are girls.

Private sector

The enrollment in private schools declines sharply after primary level, as the cost of attendance in private schools increases and the majority of the population cannot afford private education in Pakistan. The total number of students enrolled in private schools at middle level is 1,619,630. of the total level of enrollment in private schools, 66% students are in urban schools. Hence, the ratio of boys and girls is relatively balanced with 54% boys and 46% girls.

High school level

In Pakistan grades 8 to 10 constitute high school education.

Public sector

The total number of students enrolled in public high schools is 1,500,749. The 61% of students are boys and 39% are girls. Overall enrollment decreases sharply at high school level. A very disproportionate gender ratio is observed in rural high schools, only 28% of the enrolled students are girls, and 72% are boys.

Private sector

632,259 students are enrolled in private high schools. Most of them are in urban centers. The ratio of boys and girls enrollment is 53% and 47% respectively.

Higher secondary

The overall ratio seems to equalize among boys and girls in higher secondary education.

Public sector

There are 699,463 students enrolled in higher secondary education in public institutions. There is almost 50% boys and girls enrollment in higher secondary education. But there is a discrepancy between urban and rural enrollments. Only 16% of the students from the total number are from rural areas, and only 28% are female students. While in urban centers, 55% students are female students.

Private sector

154,072 students are enrolled in private higher secondary institutions, with 51% boys and 49% girls.

Degree level education

Female students outnumber their male counterparts in degree level education.

Public sector

There are only 296,832 students enrolled in degree level education in public sector institutions, and 62% of them are female while 38% are male. Very few (less than 1%) students are in rural institutions.

Private sector

29,161 students are enrolled in private sector institutions; 4% are female, mostly in urban city centers.

Summary

These statistics shed some interesting facts about education in Pakistan and the gender disparity in education is much lower in urban places vis-à-vis rural areas. One of the possible explanations of this pattern is relatively stronger dominance of tribal, feudal and patriarchal traditions in rural areas. Moreover, there are very few employment opportunities for women in rural areas, and thus, there is very little financial incentive for families to send their girls to schools. However, despite the meagre representation of females in the education sector, the level of achievement of female students is consistently far higher than that of their counterpart male students. Girls generally outclass boys in examination, and they are also higher achievers in universities. Unfortunately, the majority of the girls never get an opportunity to develop their educational capabilities.

Conclusion

Pakistan has determined its poverty line and poverty estimation methodology in 2001 based on the consumption data of 1998-99. Headcount poverty in Pakistan is estimated using Pakistan Household Integrated Economic Survey data on the basis of food energy intake (FEI) method as is the case with many developing countries. Poverty in Pakistan has fallen dramatically when it was estimated that 17.2% of the total population lived below the poverty line. The declining trend in poverty as seen in the country during the 1970s and 1980s was reversed. This phenomenon has been referred to as the "poverty bomb". The gender discriminatory practices in Pakistani society also shape the distribution of poverty in the country. Traditional gender roles in Pakistan define the woman's place as in the home and not in the workplace, and define the man as the breadwinner. Households are considered vulnerable if they do not have the means to smooth out their expenses in response to changes in income.

In general, vulnerability is likely to be high in households clustered around the poverty line. Since coping strategies for vulnerable households depend primarily on their sources of income, exogenous shocks can increase reliance on non-agricultural wages. The conditions of homelessness in Pakistan disproportionately affect women and children because of malnutrition, healthcare and access to education. In 2016, an official report by the Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform was released on multidimensional poverty being a factor in the poverty index, concluding that 39% of Pakistanis are living in multidimensional poverty. The quality of education in most of the public schools and colleges is well below par; the teachers in government schools are not well trained. People who do not get job in any other sector, they try their luck in educational system. The meagre representation of females in the education sector, the level of achievement of female students is consistently far higher than that of their counterpart male students. Girls generally outclass boys in examination, and they are also higher achievers in universities. Unfortunately, the majority of the girls never get an opportunity to develop their educational capabilities.

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