

PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP IN EDUCATION IN PAKISTAN

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ABSTRACT

The intent of this research is to evaluate / analyze the contribution of public-private in education Sector including higher education in Pakistan. How the public-private sector system of education is playing its role in the higher education and is there a need for reform? If there is a need for reform, what is the nature and extent of reform that is required at this point in time? Higher education or tertiary education is, in fact, education after grade XII and it usually culminates in a degree. Higher education plays a leading role in development of society. The functions of a university are to develop its students in physical, mental and spiritual domains. It develops and stimulates the social, economic, political and cultural life of a country or a nation. The role of higher education in the personality development and employment of an individual and its linkage to industrial growth and economic development goes without saying. It is in fact Higher Education that makes him a better and a more productive individual of a society. Higher education institutions are a must for a knowledge based economy that is interested in growth and development.

With the growth of population in Pakistan, the requirement for more and more higher education institutions came to the fore. Now that the Public Private sector higher education institutions are here, and here to stay, we need to look into the fact that as to whether they are delivering or not? There appears to be a dire need to look into the fact that as to what is the standard of faculty in Public Private sector higher education institutions. How do they give admissions to the students and what is their fee structure? More so, the issue of standardization of syllabi and curriculum and the accreditation issues. Do they have adequate library and laboratory facilities? Is there any utility of the degrees that is being handed over to the students or is it just glazed paper? Education is considered as one of the important tools to achieve the target of growth and development. Developing countries try to adopt different measures for achievement of millennium development goals of primary education, reduce gender disparities in education and Education for All. To achieve these targets, Public Private and public-community partnerships are going to become popular as an approach to increase access and quality of education. Pakistan is among those countries, which are relying on Public Private Partnership (PPP) and Public Community Participation (PCP) projects and has many success stories in this regard.(Constitution of Pakistan, Article 25-A)

Key Word Education, Higher Education, Government, Public – Private Partnership