

Issues in Provincialization of Higher Education

Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin **SI**
Chairman: Punjab Higher Education Commission

Higher Education Globally

Pakistan has lowest accessibility in higher education, among the 17-23 year old.

Country	Accessibility
Pakistan	8%
Bangladesh	12%
India	18%
Indonesia	23%
Malaysia	37%
Turkey	39%
Israel	60%
South Korea	95%

Higher Education Nationally

The current university enrollment in Pakistan stands at 687,468 as per HEC data in 2012.

Province	University Enrollment	%
Punjab	248,258	36%
Sindh	167,764	24%
KPK	88,765	13%
Balochistan	76,260	11%
Federal	106,391	16%

Higher Education in 12 Federal States

- In 10 federations, primary responsibility for governing & funding of public sector HEIs is with federating units.
- in Belgium, Canada, India, Germany, Spain & Switzerland the funding of instruction at public institutions is done through federating units.
- In most of the federal countries, autonomous non-governmental bodies such as national or regional accrediting agencies assume quality control role. Implementation is with the federating units.

Cont-

- Control for assuring minimal standards: In Canada, Belgium & Switzerland federating units look after the matters related to higher education. In Austria, this task is being looked after as joint function of federal government & federating units.
- Ranking of the universities by the independent bodies
- in 10 federal states , approval of new academic programs is granted by federating units.

Impact of 18th Amendment on Higher Education

- Devolution of Health & Education Ministries
- Specific Provisions related to Standards in Higher Education in Federal List II “Standards in institutions for higher education & research, scientific & technical institutions”
- Transfer of matters related to appointment of VC’s & other administrative functions from the Governor to the Chief Minister except Balochistan.
- Necessary amendments in Universities Act at Punjab, KPK & Sindh.

Cont-

- Allocation of funds by the provincial governments for newly established universities in Sindh, Balochistan & Punjab.
- Decision of Council of Common Interests April 2011, “Federal Government shall continue to fund both the Recurring & Development expenditure of HEC till the next NFC Award in 2015”.
- Establishment of Provincial HEC’s in Sindh & Punjab

State of Higher Education in Balochistan

- HEC PSDP allocation 2014-15: 1,376. 862 million for ongoing projects in Balochistan (8.19% as compare to 9.90% NFC share)
- HEC PSDP allocation 2014-15: 300 million for 4 new projects in Balochistan (8.19% as compare to 9.90% NFC share)
- HEC Recurring budget 2014-15: 1.5 billion out of 43 billion(3.6% of total ranking budget)
- Number of PhD produced 2002-13: 5344(Balochistan 34, 0.6%)
- Research funds allocated 2002-13: Rs. 2.3 billion(Balochistan 38 million ,1.6%)
- Number of research publications 2002-13: 29,858 (Balochistan 338, 1.1%)

Key Challenges & Way Forward:

- Establishment of autonomous provincial higher education set ups
- Technical Assistance from Development Par
- Capacity building of the staff
- Preparation of Roadmap for funding to HEI's in upcoming budget 2015-16

- Establishment of PHEC's in Balochistan & KPK
- Inter provincial sharing mechanism(Coordinating committee of PHEC's.)
- Allocation of sufficient funds in provincial budgets
- HEC needs to be federalized in its composition & programs
- Adoption of best practices of federal countries in higher education

Concluding Remarks

- In view of 18th amendment formation of BHEC & preparing the funding roadmap.
- Revised university act like other provinces.
- Fair & representative share of provinces at federal level.
- BHEC should focus on local needs.
- Enactment of BHEC