

## **Editorial Note**

*SEA entails the news stories published in different local and national newspapers and other media sources on different aspects of education in Sindh. It focuses on the state of education in Sindh related to budgets, policies, laws, practices, administrative measures and issues in the implementation of laws and policies. It mainly includes news stories from the ground or grassroots levels to inform the policymakers about the cry of students and teachers. We will welcome and appreciate your feedback and comments.*

## **6 million out of school children**

Hari Welfare Association and Child Rights Cub had jointly organised a seminar on universal children day 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018. The head of the child rights club Kashaf Parveen regretted that the literacy rate of Sindh in comparison to other provinces was extremely low. She also regretted that around 6 million children were out of school in Sindh alone, which is against the fundamental right of children especially article 25A of the Constitution of Pakistan. On occasion also others spoke about the plight of the state of education in Sindh and demanded the implementation of the laws related to the right to education (Awami Awaz, November 20, 2018).

## **Notice issued to the director general private schools Sindh**

Sindh high court issued a notice to the director general of private schools Sindh for not complying to the court orders regarding the increased school fees. The residents of Karachi city registered the complaint. The court also ordered the DG school Sindh to present the fees structure too (Kawish, November 13, 2018).

## **Protest of primary teachers against the delay of offer letters**

In front of Larkana press club, primary school teachers protested with dried rotli (bread) tied to their necks. They were carrying their infants in baskets and holding the play cards “buy our children” (Kawish, November 5, 2018).



لاڙڪاڻو: نيسٽ پاس ڪنٽر اسٽاڊ پار ٽوڪري ۾ رجھي وڪري جا ھوڪا ڏئي رھيا آھن

## **SEF schools closed down in Gaaji Khuhaawarr**

More than 300 children’s education is at stake because of the closure of the schools established by the Sindh Education Foundation. The villagers and students protested against the closure of the schools by SEF and demanded to reopen them as soon as possible (Kawish, December 11, 2018).

## **No school building**

A primary school in the village Sikandar Lashaari, near Garhi Khairo, has no building for the last 17 years and the children are compelled to sit under the open sky. Mr Nadir Ali Shah, a teacher at the school, told that the government authorities approved the school building in the year 2001, but yet the building is not constructed. He further said that they also have appealed to the education minister, Mr Nadir Ali Shah, but all in vain (Kawish, October 3, 2018)

### **Sindh Education Alert (SEA)**

Newsletter: December 2018, Issue No: 2

Hari Welfare Association (HWA), House No 56 Mehran Colony Nawabshah,  
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### **Boy's Primary School's building about to collapse**

In Kumb taluka, government boys' primary schools' building is in its worst condition, the walls of the building including the boundary walls are cracked, and the building could collapse anytime. The principle of the school, Mr Mohammad Nawaz Tumraani told that the school building was built in 1988 and after that, it was never renovated. The principle further added that the building also lacks furniture and there is no facility of clean drinking water. (Kawish, October 3, 2018)

### **Protest against the illegal occupation of school**

Pakistan Insaf Students Federation led a protest against the illegal occupation of schools in Jacobabad by the local landlords. They informed the press that the schools are being used as guest rooms and granaries. They appealed that the school buildings should be taken back from the illegal occupation and be used for the education purpose (Kawish, October 6, 2018).

### **Zero education despite the existence of four schools in a small village**

In a small village, based on only 80 houses, near Kloj, four schools existed, but

despite that, the education rate is zero because either the schools are closed or the local landlord used the schools as guest rooms for their activities. The children of the village are deprived of education and are compelled to spend their time either in playing games or doing labour work (Kawish, 11 October 2018).

### **Girls' primary school Kunro deprived of basic facilities**

Around 250 girls are enrolled in the government girls' primary school Kunro, but the school lacks basic facilities like ceiling fans, furniture, washrooms and clean drinking water. During the summer season, girls used to sit under the trees' shades because of the unavailability of the fans inside the classrooms. There were piles of trash dumped around the school, but the municipal authorities did not bother to get it clean (Kawish, 4 October 2018).

### **Villagers protest against the closure of the school**

The government boys' primary school in village Muhammad Yousuf Bhumbro is closed for the last one year. The villagers, along with children, protested against it and told that there are more 100 children of school going age in the village and they are deprived of educations. They further said



بخشاپور: اسکول پشی ہند منتقل کرن خلاف گونانا ۽ اسکول بارا احتجاج کری رہیا اهن

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that they also had informed the education department of the district (Khairpur), but no action has been taken yet (Kawish, November 17, 2018).

### Teacher arrested in case of corporal punishment

A teacher at Government Primary School, Mr Mataab Bhayo, brutally punished an orphan student of grade two for not wearing school uniform and threw him out of the school. The Daharki police took notice of the incident and ordered to arrest the teacher. The incident was also taken into notice by the director primary education, and she promised to prepare an enquiry report and send it to the higher authorities (Kawish, November 17, 2018)

### Protest against the shifting of school to another place

In a small village near Bukhshapur, villagers protested against the shift of school building to another place. The villagers told that they had requested the authorities to appoint a teacher in the school but instead of appointing the teacher, the school is shifted and this has caused trouble for the children of the village enrolled in the school (Kawish, November 9, 2018).

### Villagers protested against the closure of the school in a village near Johi

In village Saawarr, boys' primary school has remained closed for the last three months. The villagers said that the teachers are appointed but they do not come to the school and now the school is closed (Kawish, December 8, 2018).

### Notification: Ban on transfer and posting of teachers



GOVERNMENT OF SINDH  
SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY DEPARTMENT

Karachi, dated: 05<sup>th</sup> November, 2018

#### NOTIFICATION

NO.SO(G-I)SE&LD(BAN)/2018: With the approval of the Competent Authority i.e. Minister for Education & Literacy Department, ban is imposed on transfer & postings of all teaching staff w.e.f. 06-11-2018 till the end of current academic year. No biometric change will be effective after 06-11-2018.

#### II

The ban will not be applicable on Administrative Positions of School Education & Literacy Department.

- QAZI SHAHID PERVEZ -  
-SECRETARY TO GOVT. OF SINDH-

NO.SO(G-I)SE&LD(BAN)/2018:

Karachi, dated: 05<sup>th</sup> November, 2018

### Notification: Constitution of monitoring teams



GOVERNMENT OF SINDH  
SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY DEPARTMENT

Karachi dated: 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2018

#### NOTIFICATION

NO: SO(G-I)SE&L/RSU/2018: School Education and Literacy Department; Government of Sindh is pleased to notify the Monitoring Team for monitoring the academic and administrative aspects of the Teachers' Capacity Building Training Program 2018. The members of the Monitoring Team are as follows:

1. Representative of Directorate of School Education (Respective Region)
2. Representative of PITE-Sindh, SBA
3. Representative of Additional Director – TTIs Sindh, Hyderabad
4. Representative of Reform Support Unit
5. Representative of DEO - Elementary, Secondary & Higher Secondary (Respective District)
6. Representative of DEO – Primary (Respective District)

The Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the Monitoring Team are as under:

- i. Periodic visit to the Training Center for Monitoring purpose
- ii. Monitor the working sessions and other aspects of the training and record observations
- iii. Prepare monitoring report of each Center's visit
- iv. Submit the report of the visit as per the Monitoring data of the Training to SPM of TPM-RSU within 10 days time.

SECRETARY TO GOVT. OF SINDH

NO.SO (G-I)SE&L/RSU/TPM/2018

Karachi dated 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2018

### Sindh Education Department Suspends Registration of Private Schools

KARACHI (92 News): The Sindh Education Department on Wednesday suspended the registration of all the campuses of The City School and Beaconhouse over failure to comply with court orders. According to a notification issued by the provincial education department, the registration of 56 campuses of The City School and 65 of Beaconhouse has been suspended.



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The registration was suspended for charging excessive tuition fee in defiance of the Supreme Court's ruling in this regard. The Director of Private Schools Sindh said it had time and again written letters to both the school systems calling for the implementation of the verdict regarding fee hike but no avail. If the court order is enforced within seven days of the suspension, their registration will be restored, and upon failure, the schools will be sealed in the presence of a judicial magistrate. Earlier in October, the Sindh High Court barred private schools from hiking fees by more than 5 per cent and ordered them to accept dues as per the old fee structure (92 News, November 14, 2018).

### **Education in Sindh**

Earlier this week, the provincial education department informed the Sindh High Court that 11,850 primary schools out of 38,132 in the public sector could be declared 'not viable' after a proposed assessment of low- and no-enrolment schools are conducted. The schools that do not meet the standards of enrolment, availability of teachers, basic infrastructure and amenities, etc. may be shut down as a way of ensuring that funding goes to the right places — that would mean an estimated 31pc of all primary schools in the province could potentially be shut down. The figure is alarming, especially given that some 6m children in Sindh are already out of school. The closure of such a large number of schools in a province where there is already a shortage of schools and where issues of distance and transportation exist raises serious questions about what went into planning when these schools were made in the first place, and where was the

money going all this time. And while Sindh has a large network of primary schools, sometimes several within one low-attendance locality, there is a dearth of middle and high schools.

Education is the constitutional right of all Pakistani children from the ages of five till 16, and a universal human right. With the propping up of private schools across the country, the government has been accused of abdicating its responsibility of providing quality education to its citizens. But many parents cannot afford private schooling and are dependent on the government to provide free-of-cost education. The Sindh government has undertaken some commendable steps in improving the state of government schools over the years by streamlining administrative processes, increasing the education budget from Rs145bn in 2014-15 to Rs202bn in 2017-18, and introducing new reforms such as biometric verification, merit-based recruitment of teachers, and standardised testing of students. While there has been an increase in student and teacher attendance thanks to these reforms, it is not at the desired level, and much more is required (Courtesy Dawn Editorial, December 7th, 2018).

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Umbreen Kousar drafted SEA. Please share your feedback with us at [info@hariwelfare.org](mailto:info@hariwelfare.org)

