

Sindh Education Alert (SEA) Editorial Note

SEA entails three months' (quarterly) news stories published in different local and national newspapers and other media sources on various aspects of education in Sindh. It picks main stories and 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.

Sindh Education Department begins the crackdown on absentee teachers

KARACHI: The Sindh Education and Literacy Department has begun taking action against teachers who have been taking salaries while remaining absent for long periods. The department decided on Tuesday to issue show-cause notices to 18,000 such teachers. They have been summoned before the department, and those found guilty will be dismissed... . ([The Express Tribune, September 5th, 2019](#)).

'More than 12,000 schools in Sindh do not have teachers'

The revelations were made in a meeting chaired by Chief Minister Sindh Murad Ali Shah. 12,000 schools in Sindh do not even have teachers. Among 49,000 schools in the province, 37,000 lack even the most basic necessities. 11,000 schools have no students. In a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Sindh Murad Ali Shah, it was revealed that 12,000 of the schools in Sindh do not even have teachers. The meeting of the provincial cabinet went on for 8 hours and was attended by provincial ministers, chief secretaries, and advisors.... ([Blog Siasat AUG 5, 2019](#)).

Sindh Education Minister Concurs Political Snooping In Department

Sindh Education Minister Sardar Ali Shah admitted political interference and meddling in the workings of the provincial education department. While addressing the question hour in the Sindh assembly, Shah said provincial lawmakers meddle in the affairs of the education department, such as in matters related to transfers and appointments of teachers. "Politicians often say that he is my voter so transfer him," Shah revealed... ([Academia JULY 18, 2019](#)).

Mega corruption found in Sindh Education Department

KARACHI: Provincial anti-corruption watchdog has found 'corruption and misuse of authority in Sindh Education Department district Jacobabad' involving illegal inducting of hundreds of fake teachers, getting illegal financial benefits in the name of fake employees' retirement, pension and death claims from department and life insurance company and others. Sindh Anti-Corruption

[1]

Establishment (ACE) registered 13 cases against officials of Sindh Education and Finance departments and their alleged facilitators including District Education Officers, Taluka Education Officers.... ([The News International July 5, 2019](#)).

7,000 schools have been reported closed in province Sindh, 3,000 are marked as “unnecessary”.

In a gathering, presided by provincial education minister Sardar Shah and attended by directors and secretaries of the education department Sindh, it was shared that 7,000 schools all over the province are closed out of which 4,000 should be reopened, and 3,000 schools were declared as unnecessary. The education minister said to all Directors of Education department to present the final report till the 23rd of July. It was also directed by the minister to issue appointment letters to the candidates, who passed the IBA test, till 1st of August. Furthermore, it was also planned to move Higher Secondary Schools of those Talukas which have colleges to the other Talukas which do not have any colleges or Higher Secondary school. Mr Sardar Shah expressed anger over Director Schools district Mirpurkhas for not paying a visit to the schools of his jurisdiction. It was also decided in the meeting to provide transportation facility to girls in districts of Jamshoro, Umerkot, Mithi and Qambar-Shahdadkot to increase their enrollment (Kawish, July 13, 2019. P.01).

A legal notice has been issued to stop the recruitment of Secretaries and Controllers in Education Boards

Hyderabad: A legal notice was sent to the Principal Secretary of Chief Minister Sindh, Member Search Committee, Executive

Director IBA Karachi and Secretaries of Universities and Boards by a candidate; Syed Umair Ahmed, resident of Unit 9, Latifabad, after he noticed irregularities in the process of recruitments. It was mentioned in the letter that the vacancies were announced for the posts of Secretaries and Controllers of Education Boards including; Intermediate Board Karachi, Matric Board Karachi, Intermediate and Secondary Boars Hyderabad, Intermediate and Secondary Board Sukkur, Intermediate and Secondary Board Mirpurkhas, Intermediate and Secondary Board Larkana and Technical Board Karachi; on March 1st 2019 and the Interview date was 28th of July 2019. The candidates were asked to appear in a test at IBA Campus Karachi and the age limit for the candidates was mentioned 55 years. The letter mentioned that a candidate, Mr Mazhar Ali Channa (59 years old) was also called for interview after the test. It was also mentioned in the letter that the Secretaries and Controllers appointed in 2017 are still holding the posts because of the High Court’s Stay Order and their Constitutional Petition is still in the process and recruiting new people before the decision of Constitutional Petition will be illegal. Thus, the process of recruitment should be stopped (Kawish July 13, 2019. P.02).

Monitoring teams are constituted to investigate the supply of free textbooks in schools

Jamshoro: Sindh Text Book Board has constituted 5 monitoring teams on the divisional level to investigate the supply of Free Text Books in the government schools of Sindh. The teams are responsible for visiting the book storage houses, check the books sent to TOs and monitor the

[2]

process of distribution. The report will be sent to the education minister Sindh and education secretaries. The teams were constituted as a result of the complaints from schools for not receiving books despite the fact the books have reported as “Delivered” by the concerned TOs (Kawish, July 19, 2019. P.02).

Sindh: 25,000 posts of Headmasters will be filled through competitive examination

The chief minister of Sindh, Murad Ali Shah has cancelled the regularization of jobs of 950 candidates who were selected for the posts of Headmasters through IBA testing services and it has been announced that the contract will end after June 2020 and after that, the posts of 350 TEOs and 4,000 Headmasters will be filled through provincial competitive examination. It is also mandatory now to have M.Sc. degree for the posts of TEOs and assistant TEOs. On the other hand, the current Headmasters have rejected the government’s decision. According to the headmasters, they were selected through the legal process and based on merit so they cannot be removed from their posts. They have decided to stage a sit-in in front of the Karachi press club on 15th September and from there, they will march to the Chief Minister’s house. (Kawish, September 6, 2019.p.01)

64 lac children in Sindh are out of schools

According to the news reports, the literacy rate in Sindh is 61% and 64, 13,227 children are out of school. It is also reported that around 5,000 government schools are in not working condition in Sindh because of the lack of basic facilities and teaching staff.

Inauguration of one-week awareness on children’s enrollment in government schools

Education minister Sindh, Mr Sardar Ali Shah, inaugurated the program by enrolling the first the child. Many other government officials, teachers and students attended the awareness rally. While addressing the awareness rally, Mr Sardar Ali Shah said that he and his team are working to fill the vacant the positions of teachers and also collecting data about the school buildings that are not being used or are declared dangerous. He further said that an investigation is going on against the illegal recruitments done in the year 2012 and few districts have been declared clear of such recruitments. He shared with the participants of the rally that he has got his daughter enrolled in a government school to set the example and requested others to do the same. (Kawish, July 2, 2019. P.01)



سرڪاري اسڪولن ۾ ٻارن جي داخلا وڌائڻ لاءِ سردار شاهه جي اڳواڻي ۾ ريلوي ڪيڊي پٽي وڃي

Students protested against the insufficient facilities at a Women’s Library

In Larkana, students protested for against the management authorities of Begum Nusrat Bhutto Women’s Library for not providing basic facilities. While protesting, students complained that there are no facilities of drinking water, electricity and the generator is never switched on. They also complained that there is no

[3]

arrangement for keeping the library clean neither any cleaning staff is appointed. The mayor of the municipal corporation arrived at the place of protest and assured the students that he will arrange all the basic necessities at the library (Kawish, July 2, 2019. P. 04).



Three High Schools' buildings in Sanghar declared dangerous

The building department of district Sanghar has declared three buildings of high schools; High School Khatoon Fatima, High School Pironmal and High School Baago Wadaadaani; are declared dangerous. The district education officer has already letters to the headmasters of schools to vacate the buildings. On the other hand, parents are worried about the education of their children. Parents complained that the school buildings have never been renovated and they requested the authorities to investigate the about the funds released for the renovation of school buildings. The district education officer, on the request of parents, wrote letters to the headmasters of the neighbouring schools to accommodate the students of the three high schools (Kawish, July 3, 2019. P. 06).

A protest rally held against the cancellation of teaching posts

A protest rally was held by the students and political and social organisations of Saamaaro against the closure of Higher Secondary School. The protestors complained that there are no colleges in the Saamaaro and therefore it is not a favourable step to close the only higher secondary school of the area. The protesting students shared with media reporters that there are around 700 students enrolled in intermediate classes and if the teaching posts will be cancelled, all these students' education will be in trouble (Kawish, July 3, 2019. P. 02).



سامارو ٺاڻير سيڪنڊري اسڪول جي بحالي لاءِ احتجاج ڪيو پيو وڃي

A primary school finally closed down because of lack of building and furniture.

In village Allah-Dino Junejo, near Garrhi Khairo, a primary school was established in 1983 in a hut. Later on, the self-appointed teachers wrote many letters to the authorities for the provision of school building and furniture but got no response. The teachers and students got disappointed and stopped coming to school. As a result, the school has now closed down and the children are compelled to do the labour activities (Kawish, July 3, 2019. P.03)

The school remains closed even after the end of the school vacations.

The primary school of village Morro Khan Jatoi remains closed even after the end of the school vacations. Students protested against the closure of the school and requested the authorities to open the school again and save their future (Kawish, July 3, 2019. P.03)



بيروچوگوت: اسڪول نه کليل خلاف شاگرد ۽ شاگردياڻيون احتجاج ڪري رهيا آهن

Heatstroke: A teacher died and 4 students fainted

In Halaani, Hyderabad district; because of un-announced and prolonged electricity load shedding, education in schools and madaris is badly disturbed. As a result of the high temperature, 4



ميرپورخاص: گرمي سبب فوت ٿيل ماستري ۽ 4 ٻيا شاگرد

students fainted and many others vomited and suffered from low blood pressure. A primary school teacher at Government Rabia Basri school died after vomiting several times. the headmistress of the school told the deputy DEO that teachers came to her office and complained about low blood sugar and low blood pressure. (Kawish, July 4, 2019. P. 01).

1,000 headmasters appointed through IBA testing system will be terminated

In the year 2016, 1,000 headmasters were appointed through IBA testing service in Sindh. The Secretary School Education has now decided that the posts cannot be regularized because the posts were filled through commission exam. He further said that, after one year, the contract of currently appointed headmasters would end and the posts will be again filled through commission exam. On the other hand, the headmasters are very disappointed and have decided to appeal to the court (July 5, 2019. P. 01).

300 model schools will be constructed all over Sindh: Secretary Education

Education Secretary Sindh, Shahid Pervez visited his home town Diplo and had a meeting with local teachers and school administration officers. He informed the teachers that those who do not show responsible behaviour towards their job will not be spared anymore. The education staff will start the movement to increase enrollment of children in schools. He also shared with the participants of the meeting that 300 model schools will be constructed all over the Sindh and the schools will be named after their caretakers. He also asked the teachers and administrative staff to inform about basic facilities that are not provided in schools so that the schools get the required facilities. He also assured that transportation services will be provided to the students coming from far-flung areas. (Kawish, July 7, 2019. P. 02).

[5]

Sindh Professors and Subject Specialists Association protested

The members (Professors and subject specialists) of Sindh Professors and Subject Specialist Association protested against the closure of 37 Higher Secondary Schools in Hyderabad district. The teachers condemned the government's step to cancel the posts of teachers of higher secondary school. They suggested that the government should, rather, upgrade the status of 37 higher secondary schools to colleges. They said that teachers and students are restless and their jobs and education is at risk now. (Kawish, July 8, 2019. P.12).



Pano Aqil: Protest against the forced suspension of teachers of private school.

Members of Mehraan Bachaayo Action Committee protested against the forced suspension of the duties of private school and college teachers in Pano Aqil. The protestors complained that the chairman and secretary are corrupt and they have promoted a culture of favouritism. They demanded from the authorities to probe into the matter and restore the services of suspended teachers. (Kawish, July 8, 2019. P.14)

Bharia City: Government Primary School Muhammad Bachal closed for the last 6 months

Villagers (including children and parents) protested against the closure of Primary School Muhammad Bachal near Lakharoad. The villagers complained that school is closed for the last six months because of the unavailability of the teachers and because of that, education of around 150 children is at risk. They requested the authorities to take the required actions and save their children's future. (Kawish, July 10, 2019. P.03)



Big pieces of ceiling fell on students in Government Boys' school

In village Piyaro Mugheri of district Qambar, while students were taking their classes, big pieces of ceiling fell upon them which caused "panic and run" situation in them. The school management has requested the authorities many times, both in verbal and written, to renovate the building but the education department has not taken any action yet. (Kawish, July 11, 2019.p. 03)

Jhado: Primary school Walidad Chandio closed for the last six years

The only primary school of village Mohsin Chandio is closed for the last six years. The boundary wall and the furniture of the

[6]

school are in the worst condition. While protesting, parents said that the school was established in 1973, around 80 children were enrolled in the school last time when it was closed down. The villagers have requested the education department to appoint teachers for the school, but no action has been taken yet. Because of the closure of the school, children are compelled to go to the schools in neighbouring villages which becomes very hectic and troublesome because of the poor public transport system (Kawish, July 11, 2019.p. 03).



Naushehroferoz: Students compelled to take classes under the open sky

The students of Middle School Thatta Goraaho near Nushehroferoz are compelled to sit under tree shades for the last eight months because the builders/contractors vanished after demolishing the existing classrooms. The villagers, while protesting, requested the education minister to take action against the contractors/builders and order them to build new classrooms. (Kawish, July 13, 2019.p.03)



نوسھروفریز: مڈل اسکول تھٹا گوراھو جہاں پر ابھی تک کلاس روم بنائے نہیں گئے ہیں، لہذا بچے درخت کی سایہ میں بیٹھ کر پڑھ لکھ رہے ہیں۔

Larkana: PST pass candidates protested against the delay of the offer letter

The PST pass candidates protested by tying dried rotti a rope and hanging it in their necks, holding empty casseroles. The protesting candidates were accompanied by their small children in their hunger strike. While protesting, Mr Ali Dino Gaad, Shoaib Abbasi, Tariq Markhiyaani, Irfan Jhatial, Irfan Khichi, Allah Rakhiyo Abbasi and others said that they had passed the PST with 60% marks in 2009. Since then they are on the waiting list, and the favourites were given the offer letters (Kawish, July 28, 2019.p03)



Sunn: Schools deprived of electricity connection, furniture and other basic facilities

For the last two months, HESCO authorities have removed the LT wires whole Sunn city but have fitted the cables in half of the area of the city. Because of this, the city's Girls' High School, Primary School and Boys' Primary School are deprived of the electricity connection. Not only this but half of the population of the city is deprived of drinking water because of no electricity connection, people cannot use their water pumps. The schools are also deprived of furniture and because of that children sit on the ground. Because of the extremely hot weather, school activities have been

stopped. There is no solar system or generators provided to the schools. (Kawish, July 29, 2019,p.06)



سن: اسڪول ۾ سهولتون نه هجڻ سبب ٻارڙا پٽ تي ويهي تعليم ڀرائي رهيا آهن

Larkana: elementary school teachers not being promoted to grade 16

The education department of Sindh had promoted all of the teachers; who have been teaching for more than 25 years, to grade 16. But the PC teachers working in Teachers' Training Institute (TTI); serving the department for more than 25 years, were not promoted and the reason is "delay in NOC from the finance department. When contacted, Director of TTI, Mr Haroon Laghari said that he has already written a letter to the finance department for the "NOC" but have not got any response yet (Kawish, August 03, 2019. P.02).

Only science teachers will be hired now: Sardar Shah

In a meeting, presided by Mr Sardar Shah, a Road Map of the situation of Education in Sindh was presented. According to the report, there are 49,103 schools in Sindh province out of which only 11,308 schools have all basic facilities. 7,611 schools do not have building and 10,516 have only one room building and 18,507 schools have two rooms building. 18,660 Schools have only

one teacher and 11, 441 schools are without students. It was also shared in the meeting that unnecessary primary schools/schools without students are already decided to be closed soon. The provincial education minister also shared with media that the process of teachers' training is also going on and syllabus is also being amended according to the need of the time. Along with that, it has also been decided to establish two model schools in every Taluka of Sindh. Mr Sardar Shah also said that 90% of the teaching staff is of Arts group; therefore, only science teachers will be recruited in future. Regarding the "cheating during exams, the minister said that from now on the exams of Matric and Inter classes will be conducted in open grounds instead of classrooms/schools buildings and CCTV camera will be installed in the grounds monitor the students and invigilators. He also shared that the system of paper checking will also be changed, instead of taking the answer sheets at home, the teachers will sit in a group at one place, and that place too will be equipped with CCTV cameras (Kawish, August 4, 2019. p.01)

Shikarpur: Teachers protested against forced transfers

On the call of Mehran Teachers' Association, teachers held a protest rally from Lakheedar Primary School to Press Club Shikarpur. They protested against the forced transfers of 292 teachers, including female teachers, to the far-flung and rural areas. They complained that the transfer of the teachers to the NO GO areas has made it very difficult for them to reach the duty stations. Moreover, it is also against the law of SRT. They demanded the reversal of the

[8]

transfers of all 292 teachers. (Kawish, August 24, 2019.p.03)



شڪارپور: استادن جي جبري بدلين خلاف احتجاجي ريلي ڪڍي ڏرڻو هنيو پيروي

IBA test pass candidates protested against the delay of issuance of the offer letter

Hyderabad: IBA pass candidates protested all over Sindh. In Hyderabad, junior elementary school teachers protested by wrapping chains around their hands. Main concerns of the protestors were; delay in issuance of the offer letter and delay in confirmation of their services. The protesting candidates had passed the test in year 2,000 but they have not received offer letters till date except the candidates from Karachi. The protesting candidates threatened that in case of further delay, they will protest and sit and on hunger strike in front of the Chief Minister's house (Kawish, August 26, 2019.p.02).

Dadu: Parents protested against the teacher for injuring a 4th class student

In village Gul Mohammad Gnumb, a student of class 4th was tortured by the teacher, Gulam Qadir. Father of the student, Mohammad Urs accused that the teacher has injured his son by hitting him on his head with the nib of the pen, which caused bleeding. The father also said that when he went to register an FIR with the police, the police refused to do so. While protesting,

they demanded from the SSP to take action against the teacher. On the other hand, the accused teacher said that there is no truth in this story (Kawish, 27, 2019.p.02)

Gambat: Teacher tried to rape 4th class student

In village Bahadur Drigh of Taluka Qambar, a teacher of Government Primary School; Mr Azizullah Mangi, tried to rape a 4th class student (11 years old). Parents of the girls registered an FIR with the police, but police have not arrested the culprit because had run away immediately after the villagers and students arrived at the place of incidence after hearing the cries of the girl. On the other hand, it was also heard that the



حيدرآباد ۾ ماسترياڻيون پنهنجي مستقل ٿاڻ هٿن ۾ زنجيرون ٻڌي احتجاج ڪندي

teacher has been barred from attending the school and the teacher and his family are trying to solve the matter through "JIRGA" (Kawish, August 27, 2019.p.02).

Sehwan: Principal of a Private school tried to rape two students

In a private school of Sehwan, the principal of the school, Gulam Mustafa Mughal, tried to rape a student of class 5th. According to the FIR registered by the parents of the girl, the principal asked the girl and her cousin to stay in the school, after off time, for completing some homework. When all students and staff left the school, the

[9]

principal told the cousin of the girl to wait for her at the main gate. In a while, the other girls came out running and crying and the principal too came out after her. On the cries of the girl, people gathered from



سيوهڻ ۾ شاگردياتين سان ذاتياتي ڪوشش جي انزار ۾ گرفتار جوايدار لاکڻ ٿيل آهي

the surroundings and also the parents of the students arrived at the school. On the other hand, the principal of the school denied all these blame and requested the police to let him go home but the police are investigating the matter (Kawish, September 25, 2019.p.02).

School Headmasters protested against the Government for not regularising

Karachi: IBA pass teachers from all over the province of Sindh protested in front of Karachi press club and staged a sit-in. Their demand was “the regularisation of their jobs”. The protestor then started marching towards the CM Sindh house, but the police stopped them and the teachers were beaten with sticks and the tear gas, and water cannons were also used by the police. Because of that few teachers were injured and fainted. The Deputy Secretary Education, Mr Hafeez Mahesar, later on, called the leaders of the protestors for talks but nothing was finalized about the main matter (Kawish, September 27, 2019.p.01)



ڪراچي: هيڊ ماسترن تي واٽر ڪينن جي استعمال جو ڏيک. هڪ استاد پٽ تي ڪٽري پيل آهي

Sindh government decides to sack 1,080 qualified headmasters in a year

KARACHI: Although, there is an education emergency declared in the province, the Sindh government has decided to sack at least 1,080 highly qualified headmasters/headmistresses within a span of one year, Pakistan Today has learnt. The sources told Pakistan Today that Sindh government had launched Sindh Education Sector Plan 2014-18 on November 29, 2014. ([Pakistan Today, 5 July 2019](#)).

****The End****

Umbreen Kousar prepared the SEA September 2019 Issue 5. Please share your feedback with us at info@hariwelfare.org