

Quality Girls Middle School Education

Quality Education is need and demand of every individual in Pakistan including the biggest geographic unit Balochistan. 18th Amendment of Constitution has devolved the responsibility of education to the provinces. Article 25-A obligates the state to provide free and compulsory quality education to children of the age group five to sixteen years in such a manner as may be determined by law.

Balochistan which is the most important part of the country, by many accounts, needs not only access alone but also quality education to accelerate the development process in the province.

The centrality of access pushed the quality of education as well as and middle and high school education in the back draw of the system. Quite a few interventions, like provision of basic needs, capacity building of teachers, and governance, were made in the primary education. While the access based efforts in primary education, helped in reducing the gender discrimination, it generated the quality issues and compartmentalization of primary, middle and high school education. No linkages exist among these three tiers. There did not exist any forum where teachers of various levels may share their professional issues and concerns and find their solutions. The result was that rote memorization took priority over the cognitive development of children. Primary education was reduced to literacy and middle school education received such primary passed children who had very weak foundation. The same was good with the secondary school education. The middle school education is very important because it creates a linkage between primary and high school education and creates hopes among the children and parents.

Cognizant of the above situation the SCSPEB, an NGO and Foundation Open Society Institute-Pakistan joined hands to augment Government in improving Girls Middle School Education in District Pishin,

Through an economical but result oriented model which encompassed Primary and High Schools clustering around 5 girls middle schools. The model focused on improving governance through community involvement, capacity building of teachers and managers and creation of conducive learning environment. Thus improving the quality of education and reducing their vulnerability.

Though it was a very short time lived project (1 year) yet the interventions made, have helped, in improving the regularity and punctuality among the teachers and students. It has been observed that the teachers have also changed their behavior in the classroom and improved their teaching practices. The communities through PTSMCs have developed a confidence in the school system of their village.

A Provincial Seminar focusing Quality Girls Middle School Education was held at Quetta, on 11th December 2012. The seminar was attended by government officials from Education Department, donor organizations, NGOs and stakeholders of neighboring districts chaired by Secretary Education. The headmistress and members of PTSMC of the focused schools and the district education officers were also invited to share their experiences of the project. It provided a food for thought to the educational planner and manager.

The event was marked with exhibition of pictures, banners and other information displayed on standees and display boards.

Mr. Munir Ahmed Badini Secretary Education chaired the Seminar and Ms. Nargis Sultana FOSI was the Chief Guest of the event. Begum Azmat Hassan Baloch President SCSPEB, Mr. Irfan Mohammad Khan Additional Director (School), Mr. Abdul Qayyum Chairman BTBB and were the big pins of the Provincial seminar.



Mr. Irfan Ahmed MD-SCSPEB welcomed all the participants and brief about the history of SCSPEB since CSP. He highlighted the importance of middle schooling in bridging the gap between Primary to secondary school education. He expressed his gratitude to all the stakeholders (Community, Education Managers, parents, students and the Government) for making it possible to implement the model. He also shared about the objectives of middle school model and briefly described the efforts made in implementation of this model to set a road map for education department.

A presentation describing the model and its importance in light of education scenario in the province was presented to participants of the seminar.

Schools Headmistress/ teachers and PTSMC members of focused Schools (GGMS killi Yaro, GGMS Killi Abdul Razzaq, GGMS Killi Abdullah Jan, GGMS Killi Chowkal, and GGMS Killi Haleem Murgha) expressed their views, experiences and learning of this intervention. They expressed their gratitude for the provision of facilities and material i.e. teaching learning kits, lab material and library books. They also Appreciated the work done by SCSPEB and FOSI-P in their district. They requested Secretary Education to continue this type of interventions in future as well and promote Computer and English language teaching in the province.

All the District Education Officials expressed their pleasure and appreciated SCSPEB and FOSIP for this intervention and efforts made in the field of education in district Pishin.

Spoke to Participants



Begum Azmat Hassan Baloch, President SCSPEB Board appreciated the laborious work done by Secretary Education that is remarkable. On behalf of SCSPEB board she also appreciated SCSPEB for this project model in District Pishin. She said that I have heard all the expressions from district representatives with full interest and attention, it is the witnessed of success itself as everyone was requesting to sustain this model and launch the same type of model in future as well. Further she congratulated FOSI-P for taking this positive decision and step especially for Quality Education in Middle Schools.

She requested Secretary Education, even there are so many issues like Security risks and non availability of qualified teachers but if you really want quality education and students who retain and learn by heart than you will need a good and qualified teacher. The facilities and comforts are meaningless until or unless we provide a good teacher.

Mr. Abdul Qayyum, Chairman Textbook Board expressed his views. He said that SCSPEB has identified gaps and try to overcome these gaps. Under

the project 5 middle schools were selected and there are 958 middle schools if the government doubles the number of middle schools, the ratio will be 1:5. It is very challenging task and the same gap will be addressed in Balochistan Education Sector Plan.

He said SCSPEB efforts are appreciable. He said his association with SCSPEB are since 19 years during PTSMC formation. With Textbook consent he added that quality is the need of this time and quality books must be available but the task is assigned to BTBB to change the books before 2015. This year the BTBB has developed 25 books.

Ms. Nargis Sultana, FOSI-P Representative said that it is a pleasure that today we are together here for a very important cause. Here it is more important to know that either we are learning or not? She expressed that Girls education is very well addressed and presented in a very good way. Moreover it is very impressive and good to see that Teachers, PTSMC members and education managers of the district are with us.

She said that, in success of any model, the most

important is the Government involvement. She specially thanked to Secretary Education for his devotions in the improvement of Quality Education. She also briefly described about the working of FOSI-P, specially improving quality education through improving reading writing culture, conduction of children literature festival, and other research activities.

The idea of Quality Girls Middle School Education was not only to select schools, but to bring a module for the missing area of education, which may become a part of education reform or might be incorporated in sector planning. She hoped that this model will be sustainable and replicated in other districts and provinces of the country.

Mr. Irfan Mohammad Khan, Additioal Director Education appreciated SCSPEB for this intervention. He emphasised that the SCSPEB has addressed a gap, an issue which has never been addressed. He stressed on the teaching methodology through which our teachers teach to primary level. Either they teach the students at level which they feel confident to enter the middle level? He said that as an education manager, we were thinking how to address this issue where primary and middle level education support middle and higher education and consequently but this gap/issue has been successfully addressed and now the children from primary level may enter to middle level with improved quality. This gap has also been addressed in teachers training module by SCSPEB.

Honourable Secretary Education **Mr. Munir Ahmed Badini** said that Balochistan is lack far behind the reform for education and there is need of immediately reform for education. Giving much importance to education, he emphasized that it is obligation of the Society and the state to educate every child. He said that Education is question of Life and Death. If anyone is educated, he can make and determine his position in Society otherwise will be lack far behind and will not move towards success.

Mr. Badini while coming to action points shared some prevailing issues and suggested that up to class-3 or primary level the education should be in mother tongue. It is fact that, education up to Primary level enhances the learning capability of a child. To make language a part of curriculum is in process and the department is doing effort to link and integrate the language policy with curriculum so that in this way this gap will be bridged. He appreciated the formation of PTSMCs as the schools are run by PTSMCs and development of SDP through PTSMCs which cause an increase in enrolment. He disclosed that it is suggested to transfer the funds for implementation of SDP through PTSMCs. We want our province to make a tradition and let the others to follow it.

Regarding the mobility and transportation problem for female teachers, he ensured that buses or mini buses will be hired to pick and drop of female teachers. He requested SCSPEB to support Director Schools make a good case for clustering centre point for surrounding villages by collection of data i.e. # of girls, # teachers and then impact of provision of coasters. Sound and logical case will be blindly signed by Chief Minister.

He announced to upgrade all the middle schools of district Pishin as High schools with present condition if space and teachers are available to meet the needs. Director Schools will be advised to prepare SNE, Schedule of employment and infrastructure needs.

He also informed that two acts are ready and ok by the law department to be presented to the cabinet:

- a. Compulsory and Primary Education act 2012
- b. Curriculum development act 2012

At the end he appreciated SCSPEB for this intervention and congratulated Mr. Irfan Ahmed Awan for all efforts done in the field of education.

Shield Distribution Ceremony



- Presented a shield to **Mr. Munir Ahmed Badini**, Secretary Secondary Education, in acknowledgement of the patronization and valuable support.
- Presented a shield to **FOSI-P** to acknowledge the financial and technical patronage.
- Presented a shield to **SCSPEB** in acknowledgement of services and support rendered in successful implementation
- Presented a shield to:
 - **Director Schools,**
 - **Deputy Commissioner Pishin,**
 - **District Education Officer Pishin.**

Remarks by Participants



District Education Department:

District Education Officers were also happy to share their views and experiences:

Mr. Mulazim Hussain said that SCSPEB has made efforts in the field of education since 1993; it has enlightened a lamp through conduction of Teachers training that will cut off darkness and will brightened the whole country in future. He said that we are in debt to SCSPEB for their intervention in our districts.

Ms. Amtul Mateen, DEO female District Pishin expressed her pleasure and appreciated SCSPEB and FOSIP for this intervention and efforts made in the field of education in district Pishin.

Expressions by Schools/ PTSMCs Representatives:

Mr. Rafique Ahmed, President PTSMC GGMS Murgha Haleem. He appreciated the work done by SCSPEB with financial assistance of Foundation Open Society Institute. He was very happy with the provision of facilities and material provided under the project.

Mr. Iqbal Batezai, PTSMC member from Killi Nalay batezai said that the SCSPEB has worked a lot in improvement of education sector. He appreciated the initiative “work done through PTSMCs” to get the ownership of community.

Mr. Shah Zaman a PTSMC member from Killi Khoshab, congratulated and thanked the SCPSEB for completing the project work through PTSMC

Ms. Iffat Ali, Headmistress of GGMS Yaro appreciated the work and shared that the project helped them in getting the basic needs of school, conducted trainings, workshops through which teachers learnt 4

the new teaching techniques, established school libraries and provided lab material.

Ms. Rashida Asad, Headmistress GGMS Killi Abdul Razzaq appreciated the SCSPEB efforts and provision of learning material, sports kits, library and laboratory material. She requested secretary education to continue such intervention in future as well.

Ms. Nasim Bano a teacher from Faizabad School expressed her gratitude and appreciated capacity building of teachers through this project, where advanced teaching skills of teachers were enhanced through phase wise teachers training programs.

Ms. Nida Maryum, Killi Abdullah Jan appreciated hard working of SCSPEB specially concern about teaching needs and capacity building of teachers as per needs identified.

She suggested that computer and English Language may also be promoted at this level.

Mr. Abdul Rasheed Tareen, EDOE District Pishin expressed that a man educated for himself but a female educated means a whole family educated. He appreciated Mr. Habibullah and Mr. Anwar for their dedications and this intervention in district Pishin. He requested to Secretary Education to provide mobility support or arrangement of Mini Bus especially for girls.

Concluding Remarks:

Mr. Irfan Ahmed Awan, Managing Director SCSPEB concluded the whole day seminar and thanked all the participants for their presence.



Quality of Interaction reflects the learning

(Mr. Irfan Mohammad Khan, Additional Director Education).



Middle level education prepares the learner to understand and apply the concepts endured in the whole life. This level of education generates needs which helps the learner to come out of its own life and interact at a higher level of human life. It is a benchmark and gateway for high school education and creates linkage between primary and high school education. Therefore, the middle school education needs serious attention. Improvement of education, at this level, will have positive impact on primary and high school education.

Cognizant to the importance of Middle school education the SCSPEB and FOSI-P joined hands to augment Government in improving Girls Middle School Education in District Pishin, through an economical but result oriented model which encompassed Primary and High Schools clustering around 5 girls middle schools. The model focused on improving governance through community involvement, capacity building of teachers and managers and creation of conducive learning environment. Thus improving the quality of education and reducing their vulnerability. After a completion of one year a provincial seminar on Quality Girls Middle school education was held at Serena Hotel to present the learning and importance of this model in the light of education scenario in the province. The seminar was attended by broad community members, Teachers, Head Teachers, Education Officials and NGOs. Every one expressed their thoughts about this Model.

On the occasion Mr. Irfan Mohammad Khan Additional Director Education appreciated SCSPEB for this intervention. He emphasised that the SCSPEB has addressed a gap, an issue which has never been addressed. He stressed on the teaching methodology through which our teachers teach to primary level. Either they teach the students at level which they feel confident to enter the middle level? He said that as an education manager, we were thinking how to address this issue where primary and middle level education support middle and higher education and consequently but this gap/issue has been

successfully addressed and now the children from primary level may enter to middle level with improved quality. This gap has also been addressed in teachers training module by SCSPEB.

He also described that there are two types of education which our teachers are giving to our students, these are i) Inductive (more experiential and based on guided discovery & learning) ii) deductive (based on logics and reasons) primary education is an inductive education means particular to particular while the middle level education is general to particular. The basic purpose is to promote questioning and inquiry based skills among students. Because the students must know, what are they studying? Why are they studying? And how should we design our objectives?

He appreciated Secretary Education to address this issue and introduced curriculum 2006 that is totally inquiry based to minimize this gap and provides a benchmarking to Primary Level which proved a land marking for middle level education and will also increase interaction ratio at school level. He explained it through an example of mathematic equations i.e. students learn Algebraic equations up to class 5, which leads to learn quadratic equation till middle level and the same with formulas up to class 10th. If these gaps are not there than our student will be the mathematical expert. But unfortunately our teachers never place attention to same issues therefore our students after 16 years of education is unable to find out their needs, cannot become expert and cannot speak English or other language with confidence.

These gaps must be find out and should be the part of teachers training module when we introduce inquiry based education system. The middle level education is formal conservative system which leads from Questions to Answers. It is concrete operative at high level which is based on instructions and questions. The second step taken by the government is the development of teaching standards and the 3rd point directly highlights the formal or informal inquiry based teaching by Mohammad (PBUH)

The further step to minimize this gap is the development of community ownership through formation of Parents teacher School Management Committees (PTSMCs), the Balochistan Government established this structure and formed 1624 PTSMCs in Middle and High schools of Balochistan out of which 961 for middle schools.

He concluded his speech with this remark "Quality of Interaction reflects the learning"

SCSPEB News

- Conduction of Social Cohesion and Peace Building workshop at Pishin District.
- Conduction of Provincial Seminar focusing Quality Girls Middle School Education where Secretary Secondary Education was the chairperson of the Seminar.
- Partnership Built with Pre-Step for improving the practicum component of pre service teacher education in Balochistan.
- Celebrated International Global hand washing day on 15th October, 2012

Project Achievements

Balochistan Education Sector Plan

- Planning for conduction of Social Cohesion and Peace building activities at field level.
- Conduction of Social Cohesion and Peace Building workshop at Pishin District.
- Submitted a final draft of the BEBP document with costing to UNICEF

Education Improvement Project

- Teachers bio-data collected in all focused schools of both districts to develop teachers profile and their capacity building plan
- Formation of PTSMCs of Remaining 3 schools for the effective involvement of community in promotion of education.
- Distribution of class room material in all focused schools of district Noshki to improve class room learning environment.
- Conducted Teachers Training Need Assessment to develop an effective Training Program.
- Developed annual School Development Plan (SDP) through community involvement.
- School follow up visits conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of material provided

Balochistan Education Program

- Conduction of 12 days training to train SCSPEB recruited teachers for the up graded schools by PITE.
- Completion of 2nd round for De-worming tablets in focused schools.
- Distributed ECE material for Grade I & II in 12 focused schools.
- Held one Day Workshop with 60 District Education Officials for Strengthening of DEMIS Data.
- Conducted one day orientation Session regarding BEMIS data entry
- International Global hand washing day celebrated on 15th October, 2012, walks were arranged in GGHS Cantt, GBPS Sumalni Abad and role play held in GGHS Ahmed Quarry.
- Completion of 69 Child Focused Health Education (CFHE) follow up sessions in all schools focused under CFHE component.

Afghan Refugees Education Project

- 4 new HBGCs opened with minimum enrollment of 25 students in each centre.
- 4 teachers appointed in newly established HBGCs.
- Conducted 3 days training to build the capacity of SMC members on School Management.
- 51 Teachers professional capacity built on content areas through conduction of 4 Days Refugee Camp Schools Teachers' Training.
- Conduction of School Competition Seminar in both districts
- Conduction of 16 days of Activism workshops on gender based violence in both camps.
- Conduction of Salam Teachers Day
- Participation in Participatory Need Assessment of Refugees (15 days activity)

Head Office:
Samungli Road Quetta
Tel: 018-2885891-2 Fax: 081-2885893
E-mail: society@scspeb.org, scspeb@gmail.com
Web Site: www.scspeb.org

Liaison Office:
House # 224 - Street # 18 - Sector - F-10/2
Islamabad Ph: 051-2102920
E-mail: societyisd@scspeb.org