



Sardar Raza Mohammad Barrech

Advisor to the Chief Minister for Education

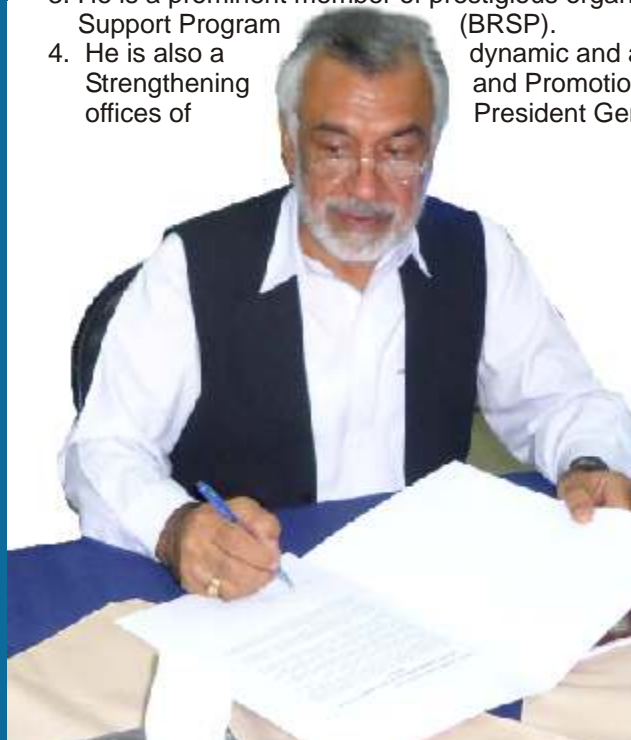
Sardar Raza Mohammad Barrech, a renowned business man of Balochistan, is steering the education sector of Balochistan in the capacity of Advisor to the Chief Minister, in the sitting Government elected on May 2013. He has been engaged, proactively to improve the deteriorating education system with a participatory approach, involving politicians, bureaucracy and general public in beefing up the mechanics of education and developing a vision for future.

Introduction

Sardar Raza Mohammad Barrech was born on 19th April, 1941. He belongs to a famous Pashtoon tribe, Barrech, which resides on both sides of Pak Afghan Border. His family had settled in Quetta about 150 years ago. He started his education from government primary school Huddah Quetta which is now upgraded and known as Government Comprehensive high school Quetta. After his Matriculation, from Government Special High School Quetta, he passed his intermediate from Government College Quetta in 1959; he engaged in teaching profession but switched over to his business. However soon he decided to complete his education and joined Karachi University from where he obtained Masters Degree in Political Science. Simultaneously he also studied Law and earned LLB degree. Importance of education and its precarious condition in Balochistan always remained a continuous subject of discussion in his family. His elder brother, Haji Fattah Khan a renowned social worker joined teaching profession quitting his career in business, just to play his role in the improvement of the situation. He was source of inspiration for Sardar Raza Barrech, who after doing his Masters again entered in the teaching profession as lecturer in Political science and served in quite a few colleges of Balochistan. However he had to leave the profession to take responsibility of his family business. He started import and export of garments of various varieties and introduced indigenous embroidery. After some time he switched to construction industry, which his family is still engaged in.

Memberships

1. Sardar Raza Barrech is an active member of Balochistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Quetta and Karachi. He has served both the Chambers as President.
2. He is a member of Board of Directors, Children Hospital Quetta and has remained a president of the board.
3. He is a prominent member of prestigious organizations like, Quetta club, Rotary Club and Balochistan Rural Support Program (BRSP).
4. He is also a dynamic and active member of Board of Directors of "Society for Community Strengthening and Promotion of Education, Balochistan (SCSPEB)" since 1996. He held the offices of President General Secretary and Secretary Finance.



Sardar Raza has been on the Board of Directors of SCSPEB since 1996 and has served the cause of education under the banner of SCSPEB in the capacity of President, General Secretary and Finance Secretary. He has very rightly emphasized on the SCSPEB to focus female rural education in the province because it is the most vulnerable segment of the SCSPEB. During his visit in the rural areas and interacting with the people he always advocates the importance of education particularly girls education. He is listened with great interest and the communities show their readiness to support the government in its efforts for promotion of education. under his leadership the SCSPEB has developed various models of access and quality of education and tried them out very successfully and the ideas were bought at national and international levels.

Education and Present Government

Sardar Raza believes that education is the most vital tool for positive change, progress and prosperity in the life of a nation and the country. It is also the most effective, the easiest and the most economical measure to develop human capital required for the advancement of any country. He was instrumental in the decision of the present Government of Balochistan to adopt education as its first priority and commitment. The government demonstrated interest in the promotion of quality Education by allocating the highest amount of funds in its first provincial budget and this year also has continued keeping education on the top of public investment. Sardar Raza observes that investment in education is inevitable because the province is faced with inadequate access to education which has resulted in low social indicators like ignorance, low productivity, poverty and a threat to peace, cohesion and integrity. He is confident that the present trend of investment on education will change the whole scenario of the province. Under his leadership the education department has developed Balochistan Education Sector Plan 2013-18. The government has adopted the document as a road map for its planning and a guideline for all the generous donors who are interested in the development of the province.



Inauguration of Computer Lab in GGHS Khan Samad Khan

Sardar Raza endorses the importance of providing maximum access to education at all levels but he also emphasizes on improving the quality of education through continuous capacity building of teachers, reviewing the curriculum, developing quality textbooks and improving the examination system in the province. It is encouraging that Balochistan is forerunner in implementation of Article 25-A of the Constitution which recognizes education a right of the children in the age bracket of 5-16 years. The government has promulgated Balochistan Compulsory Education Act 2014. Under this law the government has committed to provide free textbooks, uniform, transport and lunch to all the students up to class X. The government has also introduced mother tongue as a compulsory subject at primary level of education. The present government has further decided to introduce universal Early Childhood Education in the province under a phased program. In view to hire competent and professional teachers, merit has been adopted as doctrine of the government and made National Testing System (NTS) a primary qualifying conditions for candidates to appear in recruitment test/interview. Sardar Raza believes that the teacher community will participate in the nation building with more vigor and commitment if they are paid well. Therefore the Government has sanctioned higher grades of pay for all categories of teachers, from primary to college level. It has also sanctioned a scheme of time scale of pay which used to be a great demand of the teachers. With all these incentives the present government expects that the teachers will stand to the aspirations of the students, parents and the government.



Involvement of Communities

Since Sardar Raza has worked at grass root level therefore he is a great proponent of involving the communities and private sector in planning and implementation of government interventions in the social welfare sector including education and health. The Balochistan Compulsory Education Act 2014 envisages the establishment of Parent Teacher School Management Committees (PTSMCs) as statutory bodies. The Act assigns school education development, supervision and support to the PTSMCs who will also be responsible to persuade parents to enroll their children in schools, keep them regular and punctual till they complete their education.

Sardar Raza is confident that compulsory education act will serve as a most effective instrument to kept the ever growing illiteracy in the province and transform it into a learning community in the near future.

"Education is my passion and my mission. I hope that the teachers, parents, students, general public, politicians and my working colleagues in education will support me in eradicating ignorance, extremism, illiteracy through transforming Balochistan in a learning community and thus playing its role in the peace, progress and prosperity of Balochistan in particular and the country in general".



Major Legislations and Policy Decisions

The following important Legislations and policy documents emerged as a result of efforts of Sardar Raza:

- Balochistan Compulsory Education Act 2014
- Introduction of Mother Languages as Compulsory Additional Subject at Primary Level Act, 2014
- Balochistan Education Sector Plan 2013-18

Activities and Achievements

Balochistan Education Program

- Compilation of enrolment campaign data from 129 BEP focused schools shows that 9522 students out of which 4000 boys and 5522 Girls newly enrolled through BEP interventions.
- ECE learning material and Consumable Material provided to 25 functional ECE centers
- School Follow-up visits paid to assess the enrolments, attendance, retention, construction status and performance of PTSMCs in schools.
- Organized Quarterly cluster based workshops/follow-up sessions for middle and secondary teachers of up-graded schools and ECE teachers
- Capacity development of 116 ECE & Grade I-II teachers on ECE Teaching Techniques in both Districts.
- "Education Leader Ship Management" capacity development training held for 30 Head, Vice Teachers and PTSMCs of upgraded middle and high schools.
- Quarterly Performance Reviews- QPR conducted with PTSMCs to evaluate their performance in the schools.
- Inter School Debate Competitions organized at district level where 12 girl's schools participated and the prizes were distributed among the winners.
- Organized DRR training for all the child club members
- CFHE refresher course conducted in all focused schools
- "Adolescent girls' problems" sessions held with teachers, mothers and girls students of 38 middle and secondary schools.
- Hearing & Visioning Screening held in 44 Schools of both districts where 269 cases were detected with hearing and visioning problems.
- Inauguration of computer lab in GGHS Khan Samad Khan on June 9, 2014 by Mr. Sardar Raza Mohammad Barrech, Advisor Education to Chief Minister Balochistan.
- Health & Hygiene (H&H) follow-up sessions held with all Primary sections of BEP schools

Afghan Refugees Education Project

- 2595 students 1165 boys / 1030 girls were enrolled out of which 183 Students 95 boys and 88 Girls were newly enrolled in both camps.
- Regular meetings were held with Teachers, SMCs (M/F), Community worker (M/F) regarding new enrollment, SMC (M/F) and child club trainings, celebration of different events and school related issues in both camps.
- Organized SMCs training to build the capacity of 128 SMC members on their roles & responsibilities school monitoring techniques, child enrollment and resource mobilization.
- Newly established 11 child clubs, 07 in Mohammad Khail and 04 in Muslim Bagh.
- 42 children from 7 child clubs in Mohammad Khail were oriented on their roles & responsibilities, school discipline & cleanliness and the technique of complaint box.
- Recruitment of three new teachers for camp schools in Muslim Bagh.
- Celebration of Sports week in both Camps and prizes were distributed to winners to encourage students and team.
- Celebrated "World Refugee Day" in both Camp where all Teachers, Students, SMC members (male/Female) and community members participated.
- One new House Based Girls Centers (HBGC) No. 86 opened in Muslim Bagh with the enrolment of 26 girls.
- Inauguration of fully equipped computer lab with solar system established in Mohammad Khail Camp.

Plural Business Partnership for Peace

- 9 village observation survey was conducted in District Lasbela
- Meetings with stakeholders:
 - o Meeting with community in 9 villages of District Lasbela
 - o Meeting with government officials of relevant departments.
 - o Meeting with business community (chamber of commerce)
- Focused group discussion with community of Ghot Hassan Jamot.



SCSPEB News

- Sardar Raza Mohammad Barrech, Advisor to Chief Minister Balochistan for Education inaugurated a computer lab in GGHS Khan Samad Khan under BEP. Mr. Ghulam Ali Baloch, Secretary Education accompanied him during the ceremony.
- SCSPEB participated, as an employer, at the occasion of Job Fair organized by BUIITEMS on June 25, 2014
- "When children play the world wins" Mr. Tayyab Lehri, Additional Secretary (Dev) inaugurated a training session to develop Master Trainers held by SCSPEB and Right to Play. Mr. Ghulam Ali Baloch, Secretary Education also witnessed the progress of the training.
- Mr. Ghulam Ali Baloch, Secretary Education visited Government Girls Middle School Killi Ismail. He inspired with the quality of construction work and progress.
- The Advisor to the Chief Minister (Edu) and The Secretary Education Balochistan visited SCSPEB office. They were briefed on the history, achievements and future vision of the organization.
- A meeting regarding enrollment campaign 2014 was held with Donor/INGOs/NGOs towards Implementation of Balochistan Education Sector Plan (BESP)
- Mr. Irfan Ahmed Awan, Managing Director SCSPEB and Mr. Shabbir Ahmed, Manager Program inaugurated Computer Center on July 24, 2014, established in Mohammad Khail Refugee Camp under AREP.

Success Story GGMS Nasran

Girls' Education in Balochistan is confronted by a plethora of challenges ranging from lack of access to lack of quality, and from poor transition rates to alarming levels of drop out. All these challenges are sophisticatedly interlinked and distressingly impact the future of both enrolled and out-of-school children.

Killi Nasran is situated in UC Nawa Killi, tehsil Zarghoon town; district Quetta at a distance of 7 km from GPO Quetta. It is surrounded by Zarghoonabad in the North, Tahakabad in the South, Kotwal in the west and Quetta Cantt in the East. Killi Nasran has mixed population but majority belongs to a Pashtoon tribe Nasar, from which the village borrowed its name. Besides Pashtoons it is dwelt by Christen community, Punjabi & Urdu Speaking families. Infact it is a new village which was set up by Nasar tribe who migrated from Chaman some 60 years back. Majority of population is quite conscious and aware of importance of education but facing access issue of middle schooling for their girls. The area has all the amenities like electricity, gas, water and telephone but there is no girls' middle school in the village. Some families, who can afford the expenses of schooling outside the village, send their daughters to Mission Road Girls High school or Wapda Government Girls High School, which are situated about 8-10 km from Nasran. However the SCSPEB upgraded Government Girls Primary School Bashirabad under BEP which is about 2-3 km away from the village but the parents were not ready to send their daughters to Bashirabad due to their tribal taboos.

Demonstrating their interest towards Education the community persistently requested education department for up-gradation of their school from primary to middle level but due to lack of resources the government could not respond positively. Even the government could not have a solution for 20-30 students who pass out from primary school each year. However on continuous demand of the parents the SCSPEB evaluated the situation and decided to upgrade Killi Nasran under Balochistan Education Program (BEP) to address the issue. The school was proposed to be upgraded to middle level with the approval of the government as an input of the program intervention.

The community also showed great interest in the management of the school. They formulated "Parent Teacher School Management Committee (PTSMC)" a management body to link the community, school and also the education department into a bond which is strengthened by collective goodwill for students and education. The PTSMC members' capacities build on their roles and responsibilities. PTSMCs were also involved in financial issues and accounts were opened to carry out the financial transaction. They developed a school development plan (SDP) which highlighted the prioritized needs of the school reference to its up-gradation issue.

The SCSPEB following the SDP worked out the room construction plan and also worked with the education department for re allocation of the teachers from schools which could afford to part with some of their faculty members. Thus minimal additional liabilities for the government were created. The SCSPEB arranged appointment of 4 new teachers including 2 SST(G), 1 SST(Sci), 1 JET and 1 supporting staff of Grade IV are serving in GGMS Killi Nasran and will be regularized by the government once the program period is passed. Moreover, the program has also facilitated trainings for new and existing teachers on various contents including child focused health education, child protection, child rights and positive disciplining, child friendly teaching and disaster risk reduction. The teachers and student awareness rising sessions for child focused health are also being conducted and Mothers, Teachers and girls were capacitated on specific health issues to adolescent girls. 15 teachers in GGMS Killi Nasran have received trainings on the mentioned topics.

The school was provided furniture, disaster risk reduction (DRR) material, sports kits and school health and nutrition (SHN) kit. The PTSMC proved a great change agent in the area. In 2012 the school was formally notified as upgraded middle school with the enrolment of 388 students. The number of students has risen to 486 till 2014 out of which 37 are studying in middle section. Apart from the up grading school to middle level, on the demand of the community a classroom was also constructed in present school building at 1st floor. This is an unprecedented intervention and a value addition to their education. The SCSPEB proved that small amount of efforts in the way to education can overcome the issues of access and quality.

Society for Community Strengthening and Promotion of Education, Balochistan

Head Office:
Samungli Road Quetta
Tel: 081-2885891-2 Fax: 081-2885893

 **E-mail:**
society@scspeb.org, scspeb@gmail.com
societyisd@scspeb.org
Web Site: www.scspeb.org

Liaison Office:
House # 224 - Street # 18 - Sector - F-10/2
Islamabad Ph: 051-2102920