



علم

تولو دياره

ENROLLMENT CAMPAIGN IN KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

REPORT - 2024

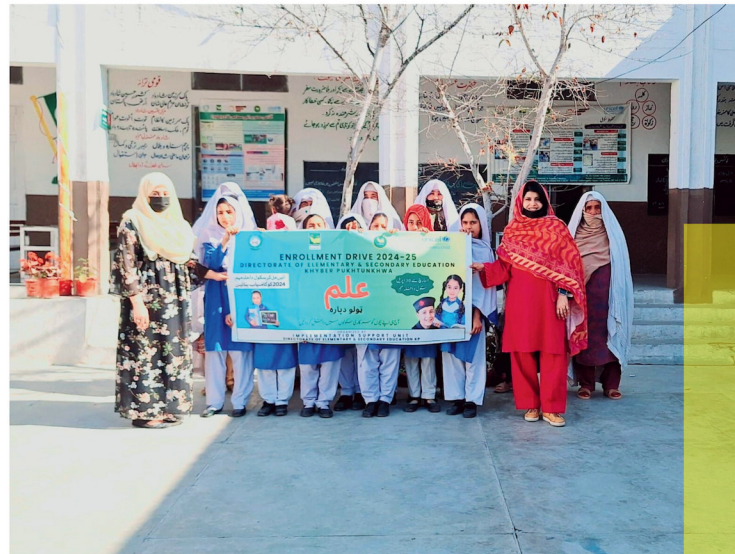


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BACKGROUND

Education is the fundamental right of every child, and providing free and compulsory education to children aged 5-16 is the responsibility of the government under Article 25-A. However, Pakistan's literacy rate lags behind its neighboring countries, with a literacy rate of 57.0% (79.8% Male, 65.5% Female). The primary school dropout rate is 22.7%, which is the third highest in the region after Bangladesh and Nepal, indicating a significant challenge in early education. Pakistan is ranked 152 out of 189 countries in the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) Human Development Index (HDI) ranking, according to the Human Development Report, 2020-2021. Enrollment campaigns are crucial in Pakistan to address low enrollment rates, high dropout rates, gender disparity, lack of awareness, and barriers related to poverty and accessibility. These campaigns help raise awareness about the importance of education, encourage parents to send their children to school, and provide support to students to stay in school. By promoting girls' education, addressing cultural barriers, and providing information about the benefits of education and available resources, enrollment campaigns play a vital role in improving educational outcomes and ensuring that every child has the opportunity to receive a quality education. The Implementation Support Unit - Directorate of Elementary and Secondary Education in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (ISU-DoE&SE) formally launched the Enrollment Campaign 2024 across thousands of schools in 35 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) with the aim to increase enrollment in government schools, reduce dropout rates, and promote girls' education and universal access to education through community engagement, awareness-raising, and support for Parent-Teacher Councils and Mother Groups.

KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA AT A GLANCE

Within the age group of 9-39 years, approximately 7 million individuals in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) lack literacy, with less than 30% of females being literate. Despite having a large sub-national education system in Pakistan with more than 4.5 million students, 122,119 teachers, and 33,440 schools, KP faces considerable challenges in meeting its educational commitments. These include Article 25-A of the Constitution, the KP Free Compulsory Primary and Secondary Education Act, and SDG-4 of the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030. Despite efforts by the government, nearly 5 million children in KP are out of school, as revealed by the provincial education department. The report indicates that more than 3.67 million children in settled areas and 1.61 million in the erstwhile FATA have not yet been enrolled. Poverty, unemployment, and lack of awareness are cited as the main reasons for children staying away from schools, with over 2.29 million girls and 1.38 million boys out of schools in settled areas, and over 360,000 boys and 645,000 girls in the former FATA region.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CAMPAIGN

- To increase enrollment and reduce dropout rates through community engagement.
- To educate parents about the importance of girls' education, with the goal of increasing female enrollment and reducing gender disparity.
- To raise awareness about the transformative impact of education on individuals and society.
- To promote universal access to education by advocating for enrollment in state-run schools.
- To clarify the roles and responsibilities of Parent-Teacher Councils (PTCs) and Mother Groups in enhancing enrollment and reducing dropout rates.



CAMPAIGN IN ACTION

ISU-DoE&SE, with technical and financial support from UNICEF, launched the Enrollment Campaign 2024 in all 36 districts of KP with ceremonies held at various schools, engaging thousands of children, teachers, and community members. Each event featured student participation in speeches, poems, melodies, and skits, aimed at motivating children to enroll in school. Prizes were distributed to outstanding students to incentivize enrollment. These events were attended by officials from District Education Offices, both male and female, the Director Programs of ISU-DoE&SE, PTC members, community elders, and ISU-DoE&SE staff. Each school's campaign culminated in an awareness walk, involving PTCs, community members, and students, led by officials from the District Education Office, school teachers, and ISU-DoE&SE officials. The events concluded with the distribution of Student Learning Kits to motivate students and support the teaching-learning process.



PICTURE GALLERY





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